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17 OCTOBER 1986

# USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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17 OCTOBER 1986

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MILITARY AFFAIRS

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## MILITARY POLITICAL ISSUES

### ARMY GEN MAKSIMOV CITED ON MORATORIUM, U.S. POLICY

LD042130 Moscow TASS in English 2105 GMT 4 Sep 86

[Text] Moscow, 4 Sep (TASS)--"The unilateral moratorium is not a simple matter for the Soviet Union, particularly in conditions when the United States is striving to achieve military superiority", said Commander-in-Chief of the USSR Strategic Forces, Army General Yuriy Maksimov. He appeared in "Vremya" program of the central Soviet television today. "In order to upgrade nuclear missile weapons, nuclear testing is needed and conducting it is no less important for the Soviet side than for the Americans," he said.

"From the time the Soviet moratorium was introduced, 18 nuclear explosions were conducted in the U.S. to perfect new types of nuclear weapons", General Maksimov said. "Ten new 'MX' missiles are being deployed in the U.S. Each of them can carry ten warheads with a total yield of about 6,000 kilotons. Putting 'MX' missiles with high combat preparedness, accuracy of hitting targets and other high characteristics on stand-by alert attests to a sufficiently high degree of the development of these missiles. In any case, this does not indicate that there is any lag of the U.S. in the sphere of nuclear missile equipment. And if the U.S. refuses to stop nuclear testing and continues conducting nuclear explosions, this is done in the interests of developing new generations of missiles and in the interests of developing space strike weapons in the framework of the U.S. 'star wars' program", General Maksimov said.

"Since the time nuclear weapons appeared, the Soviet side constantly had to parry the United States' attempts at getting the unilateral right to deal nuclear strikes. And now, if the United States does implement its 'star wars' program, the Soviet Union will certainly find a due answer, this time too."

"It is only a complete ban on nuclear weapon tests that could really lead to an end to the arms race", General Maksimov said. "In this case the existing nuclear systems could not be upgraded and the creation of new systems would practically become impossible."

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CSO: 1812/1

## MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

### ARMY, NAVY POLITICAL CHIEF ON PARTY WORK

AU180601 Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 14, July 1986 (Signed to Press 4 Jul 86) pp 9-18

[Article by Army General A. Lizichev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy: "Purposefulness and Professionalism in Restructuring Party-Political Work"--passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] The decisions of the June (1986) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the appeal of the party Central Committee, which calls on the country's working people to be active fighters at the labor front of the 12th 5-Year Plan and to make a worthy personal contribution at their workplaces to fulfilling the tasks projected by the 27th Congress, produce a new surge of strength and energy in servicemen of the Army and navy and in all Soviet people. Now, when a persistent struggle has been launched to implement the party's directives, commanders, political organs, party organizations, and military collectives are striving to precisely define their place in this struggle to turn the energy of plans into the energy of actions. Stress is put on achieving concrete results in implementing the party's requirements to strengthen the combat capability of the Armed Forces and to enhance their vigilance and the combat readiness, discipline, and organization of personnel.

Real advancement in the quality of operational-tactical training and of combat and political studies, in strengthening prescribed order, and in intensifying the party's impact on all aspects of the life of troops and naval forces is an indicator of a profound understanding by Army and Navy Communists and all servicemen of the acuteness of the instant that the country is going through, its crucial nature, and the need for psychological reorientation. Only through them can one judge how firmly we have assimilated the lessons of the party congress and whether they have really been added to our arsenal: the lesson of the purifying and mobilizing truth, the lesson of purposefulness and decisiveness in practical activities, and the lesson of understanding the importance of the masses' creative vigor as the main motive force of acceleration and restructuring. "Turning to people, to the vital cause," M.S. Gorbachev said in the report to the Central Committee plenum, "is the main point in fundamentally restructuring party work."

When we talk about the need to preserve and develop the spirit of the congress, the moral-political atmosphere created by the congress, and to implement its

decisions, we have in mind not simply mental impulses, not verbal readiness, but precisely practical action. Many of our political organs and Communist leaders in all components of the Army and navy organism have begun restructuring party-political work in a businesslike fashion on the basis of congress requirements, and are persistently seeking to enhance its quality and efficiency. An active improvement of style in accordance with the altered conditions typifies, in particular, the work of the Political Directorate of the Ground Forces. This is manifested by a noticeable shift to the practical organization of fulfilling congress directives, CPSU Central Committee resolutions, the requirements of the USSR Minister of Defense, and its own decisions, and by a strengthening of control and an enhancement of the accountability of military districts' political organs, particularly in the issues of implementing the party requirements dealing with strengthening military discipline. Of course, this is only the beginning. Much work lies ahead, including the quest for an optimal amount of information materials. The Political Directorate of the Ground Forces has still not abandoned demanding all kinds of reports from local areas, which take up people's time, but do not always serve the cause.

The first steps have also been taken to enhance the party's impact on resolving tasks of the operational-tactical training of troops and naval forces, and in the management of party organizations, which typify the activities of the political directorates of the Belorussian and Leningrad Military Districts and of the Baltic Fleet. The essence of the positive changes in the activities of these and certain other political organs is that the efforts of the apparatus there are focused on vital work with people directly in the party organizations of units and subunits and that a creative quest is under way for ways to enhance the effectiveness of party work. The political organs and party organizations of units and subunits taking part in eliminating the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES are now undergoing a severe test of professionalism and initiative. Many political workers, including Generals Comrades N. Goncharov and A. Bilenko are efficiently reacting to changes in the complicated situation and are patterning work on a consideration of the newness of the tasks, which is receiving a high rating from the leaders of the governmental commission and approval from the local population. The unity of the army and the people is clearly manifested in the selfless work of the troops.

Improvements in the style and methods of the activities of political organs and party organizations are taking place at all levels. And the grains of valuable experience, which merits support and dissemination, are already accumulating. However, we will say frankly that this work is still proceeding slowly. The new is making gains with difficulty. Substantial progress toward substantive and efficient organizational work in the decisive sectors of the struggle for heightened combat readiness and firm discipline are not yet visible. Many political organs lack determination, persistence, and efficiency in shifting from words to deeds and in ridding themselves of obsolete stereotypes and formalism. Certain political workers and party activists simply cannot overcome inertia in thinking and get out of their rut, expect some kind of supplementary instructions from above, and try to justify their inactivity by referring to the great load of pressing routine concerns.

Efficient and conscientious labor, creative quests, and heightened organization and discipline in all areas are the main conditions for fulfilling party congress decisions. The orientation of cadres and all Army and Navy personnel toward maximum efficiency of energies in the struggle for heightened combat readiness and firm prescribed order enable people to develop an ability to mobilize all their knowledge and their will to successfully accomplish the set tasks and to more quickly find correct ways to fulfill them in any complicated situation. And success here depends entirely on tireless improvement of the substance, style, and methods of the ideological and organizational work of political organs and party organizations, on molding an active vital posture in every Communist and a new thinking in cadres that complies with the times, and on everything that the capacious concept "restructuring" encompasses. What in this now acquires particular relevance, to what would one like to draw attention?

/First is the need to strictly check one's plans and work against the goal and tasks of restructuring./ One still encounters instances where individual comrades interpret the essence of the matter too straightforwardly, or rather in an oversimplified way, by setting themselves partial tasks and striving just to "fit into" an assessment, as they say. Meanwhile, the issue has been broadly formulated so as not to just ensure some success and to strengthen the party's impact in an individual area, but to fully awaken people's creative opportunities and to ensure that they actively utilize their knowledge and skills in the interests of the cause. We know not only that our officers are well-trained theoretically and professionally, but also that the majority of first-term military servicemen, as a rule, possess knowledge in the range of secondary and incomplete secondary school. But is this intellectual potential of personnel fully incorporated in the process of combat training and education? I think that it has not been utilized everywhere and, for the time being, insufficiently so as to accelerate the training of troops and naval forces, to enhance their combat training, and to strengthen discipline.

Very acute now is the need to focus organizational and educational activities on invigorating the human factor, to strengthen in every way the relations of commanders, political organs, party organizations, and all Communists with troops, to speak to them truthfully, to call things by their name, to openly form an opinion on everything, and to take care that servicemen are constantly and objectively informed about the state of affairs in formations, units, and on ships. Much here depends on the ability to keep the social and spiritual spheres of the personnel's affairs at the center of attention, to establish our morality and social justice in the military environment in every way, to wage a relentless battle against disorderliness, verbiage, formalism, drunkenness, rudeness, window dressing, and to seek to totally eradicate negative phenomena. Restructuring presupposes that everyone in his place must do his work honorably, conscientiously, and with total efficiency of effort and skills. It is important that he understand the acuteness of the instant being experienced and its crucial nature. This requires further enhancement of the efficiency of ideological work and improvement in all forms of political training and party education and instruction. A "wholesale" approach to the matter of education is impermissible, and concreteness, a systematic nature, and aggressiveness are important in this.

Party organizations are called on to be the main generators of the invigoration of the masses. "The essence of restructuring party work," the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th party congress stressed, "is for every party organization--from the republic to the primary one--to actively fight to implement the policy of the April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and to live in an atmosphere of seeking out and updating the forms and methods of its activities." And this can only be achieved by fundamentally improving the leadership of party organizations and by establishing a healthy, businesslike, and full-blooded intraparty life in them, which is typified by its openness, the publicity of plans and decisions, and a heightened sociopolitical vigor and modesty by Communists.

Enhancing the militancy of primary party organizations and their invigoration are very important conditions and guidelines for restructuring all party work. Much has been done in this regard since the April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Full-blooded party organizations, which comprise a firm political nucleus and a combat vanguard for military collectives and command and control elements, are operating in all units, in regiments, on ships, in staffs, and in directorates. Their role, vigor, and impact in training and educating personnel have noticeably increased. A process is under way to expand their organizational-political opportunities by dynamically developing their internal structure. As of today, party organizations in 90 percent of company-type subunits are operating with the same rights as workshops and party groups. And in places where they are working energetically and where Communists are engaged in specific tasks and not in chatter on general topics, there is an increase of qualitative indicators in training and discipline.

But one must admit that the great opportunities for an impact by party organizations in enhancing the vigor of military collectives and in developing people's creative quests is far from being fully utilized. There are many organizations in which intraparty relations do not comply with contemporary requirements and work is developing with elements of formalism; speechmaking and stage-managing have not been eliminated; and Communists' vanguard and exemplary role in their work has not been ensured. Suffice it to say that at the spring inspection, in a number of units as few as 30 percent of party members and candidate members showed a satisfactory level of training, and in certain military collectives they did not fulfill the adopted socialist pledges at all. What sort of vanguard role for Communists in organizing the personnel's struggle for high-quality combat and political training can one talk about if many party members have turned out to be among the laggards.

Such instances are a result of a lack of concrete work by political organs, of old-fashioned management of party work in general on the whole, without profound analysis, and of subjective instruction of the aktiv without an ability to inspire people to conscientious military labor and toward the future. Today, verbal assurances of support for the party's decisions and plans will delude no one. Practical deeds are needed to fulfill them. We must work in a new way. And the work style must be energetic, businesslike, and aimed at organizing innovative activities by the masses.

/Second, purposefulness and efficiency of effort aimed at restructuring party work are largely determined by the approach to the task./ The experience of advanced military collectives convincingly confirms the indisputable concept that success in combat training and socialist competition can only be achieved when one looks forward and sees the prospects and when one proceeds in everything on the premise of the contemporary requirements of the party congress for the quality of work and for accelerating the development of all aspects of our life. It is difficult and perhaps impossible to expect high results from Communist leaders and military collectives for which the main reference point of work continues to be yesterday's results. In these cases all collective efforts are focused on how to improve training indicators from poor to satisfactory. As a result of this approach to the organization of affairs, units and subunits are, at best, marking time.

Orientation toward achieving high results is ensured by the work efficiency of commanders, political organs, and party organizations and begins with thought-out and thoroughly validated planning. Our plans become optimally concrete when they stem from the real state of affairs and the existing opportunities, and precisely define what and when something needs to be done and by whom, and who is to organize performance and to carry out monitoring. All their provisions and clauses must be aimed at the future and at achieving high end results that take into account every direction of party-political work and the entire diversity of phenomena and situations of Army and Navy life, while observing the Leninist principle of the main link in work, the particular link in the chain that should be grasped so as to hold on to and pull out the entire chain. The prerequisites for achieving the indissoluble unity of organizational and ideological work are thereby ensured. Under the conditions of restructuring planning party-political work, of particular value are the sense of the new, creative quests and initiative, not being satisfied with what has been attained, and boldness in formulating tasks.

All the aforesaid is known to political cadres. Nonetheless, one quite often encounters superficial approaches, obsession with oversize organization, and formalism.

Thus, the Political Directorate of the Odessa Military District at one time compiled two major party-political work plans to strengthen military discipline that duplicated each other and, in certain things, contradicted each other. Of the plethora of measures projected in them, only about one-tenth were of a specific nature and oriented performers toward organizing affairs, and about 90 percent were general appeals and slogans.

The harmfulness of this approach is also that it is imitated and copied in local areas. For instance, the political department of one of the district's motorized rifle divisions had 36 various plans. Think of how much time, effort, and energy was spent on their development. This is precisely the very creation of paperwork that the 27th CPSU Congress demanded be resolutely eradicated.

Let us look at the root of these phenomena: All this is produced by yesterday's psychology and yesterday's level of thinking. To overcome this and to master new approaches, what is primarily needed is for primarily higher levels of

authority to put an end to the defective practice of inspecting and assessing the work of political organs on the basis of the existence of paperwork, not on the actual state of affairs, and to patiently arm cadres with scientific planning methods. Moreover, chiefs of political organs and their deputies are called on to organize this.

An approach to work that complies with the spirit of the times and that is oriented toward high results presupposes strict implementation of party directives, of instructions from the center, and of one's own decisions. The organization of performance is taking up an increasingly great proportion of the activities of political organs at all levels. The workers of the majority of them are currently utilizing 50-70 percent of official time for working directly in units, on ships, and in primary party organizations. This permits a more profound investigation of the progress of combat training and the processes of troop and naval life. One can cite dozens of examples of political organs' principled formulation and sound study of major issues of great importance to combat readiness, to enhancing the quality of instruction and education, to improving ideological work, and to strengthening military discipline.

Everything that is positive should be consolidated and developed. At the same time the truth must be faced: A real organization of affairs is still a weak point in the activities of political organs at all levels. It has not taken a leading place in party work. Vital work with people is at times replaced by clerical-bureaucratic, paperwork, and pretentious methods of leadership, by a semblance of energetic activity, and by transferring instructions from the top to the bottom. Therefore, it turns out that a verbal storm rages in the upper echelons of the district component, while there is a total calm in the lower ones. For this reason good plans get bogged down halfway, useful initiatives are extinguished, and the necessary end results in combat training and military discipline are not achieved.

And what is particularly disturbing is that certain Communist leaders are not averse to disclaiming responsibility for this abnormal situation. They say that they promptly gave orders and worked intensively, but their subordinates let them down. In turn, certain political workers and party activists in formations, units, and on ships cover themselves by saying that they gave information and made reports to higher political organs on the poor state of affairs. It is time also to learn to take part of the blame and a degree of responsibility in the party manner, and to begin restructuring within oneself.

For instance, meetings of the party aktiv and the political directorates of the Black Sea Fleet and the Central Asian Military District have put forward many rational proposals and adopted quite good decisions aimed at improving the quality of combat training and at strengthening discipline. At present the main thing is lacking--concrete organizational work: a precise formulation of tasks and a thought-out deployment of Communists, substantive instruction and training of the aktiv, and the involvement of party and Komsomol organizations in active and purposeful activities.

A businesslike approach to organizing performance is of course not gauged by the number of visits to the troops or the number of days spent there. For instance, workers of the Political Directorate of the Central Asian Military District have made repeated and long-term visits to two tank regiments. But they did not recognize the complacency of certain Communist officers and shortcomings in the organization of combat training. They are also to blame for the fact that units' personnel showed poor results in field training at the spring inspection.

Or take the approach toward strengthening discipline by a number of political organs of the Black Sea Fleet. There are many Communists among sailors and petty officers in first-term military service. They could make an impact on preventing offenses, strengthening friendship and comradeship, and making military collectives cohesive; provided that the work with this category of CPSU members and candidate members is singled out and conducted purposefully. But this has not been done. As a result, cases of nonprescribed interrelations within certain ships' crews continue to occur.

New approaches toward party-political work do not amount to numero appeals to fight for firm discipline and efficient training, but mean the practical conduct of this fight, involving Communists and all servicemen in it, and creating in party and military collectives conditions that do not tolerate nonperformance, negligence, laziness, and carelessness. Each Communist leader is not an information clerk who passes instructions and tasks down the chain of command, but an organizer of affairs; together with the direct participants in the work, he is called on to influence people through party methods and to develop their creative initiative and responsibility.

/Further, under the conditions of restructuring, methods of party leadership and forms of party work are developed and filled with new substance./ Businesslike and concrete leadership of political organs and party organizations, which includes good knowledge of the state of affairs in formations and units, identification of "sore" points and measures to eliminate them, skillful summarization of all that is new and advanced, and concern for its becoming the property of others, is increasingly being established in life.

Party leadership is unthinkable without a knowledge of the conditions under which servicemen live and work, without understanding their moods and concerns, and without energetic action that is taken on the spot and is aimed at mobilizing everything that serves to enhance people's political vigor. However, one still encounters instances where leadership is reduced to this defective method: a summons to a higher political organ, a hearing, and perhaps a sharp rebuke--that is all. Without concrete businesslike assistance, one cannot, of course, expect an improvement in work.

In this area the activities of certain party organizations in summarizing and disseminating advanced experience deserve criticism. In the work of psychologically reorienting people, it is difficult to overestimate the importance of educating them on the basis of positive examples and arming them with the practice of new work approaches, methods, and forms. However, the study of the sprouts of what is new and instructive in party work and what is worth adopting

is in many places conducted poorly, and the introduction of advanced experience is even worse. This applies specifically to the political organs of the Baltic, Siberian, and Far East Military Districts, of the Pacific Fleet, and of Railroad Troops. There are units and ships in these as, incidentally, in other military districts, groups of forces, and fleets, which have achieved stable and high results in combat and political training and in maintaining prescribed order, but their experience is not being disseminated and adopted by the rest of the military collective. It is not even reflected in detail in the information that political organs disseminate among the troops and present to the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy. Some workers of political organs cannot provide answers to questions about what new things have appeared in the process of restructuring party activities and who is setting the pace in this.

I would like to caution against the rush for new work forms which has been observed in a number of places. Every form should be assessed not by itself, but together with its content and with how it serves the cause. I must cite this example: The North Caucasus Military District has developed an enthusiasm for what is called a wholesale rating of Communists. The district's political directorate has drawn up a list of questions on whose basis the activities of each CPSU member and candidate member is rated, including the aspects that are rated by the single commander [yedinonachalnik]. Indiscriminate encompassment is indeed formalism presented in the guise of something new.

Understandably, we support reports on Communists, an open confirmation of party characteristics, and a party assessment of the businesslike and political qualities of Communists in cases where the issues of their appointments to posts, promotions, their being sent to study, or nominated for an award are being decided or when complaints are registered against those who are poorly fulfilling their party and official duty. But we also advocate a strictly individual approach to each person, because mass assessments do not cultivate responsibility.

In the restructuring process, as in any new task, one encounters a keenness for sham innovation. It is important to correct comrades promptly and tactfully and to open the way for the really new and advanced things which conform to the spirit of the times.

Let us take a tested method of combating negative phenomena such as criticism and self-criticism. One cannot permit some people turning them into a kind of fashion or a shield to cover up their own inactivity. But these enthusiasts exist. They eagerly admit mistakes, confess their negligence, and are generous in their assurances and promises; however, in practice they change and improve nothing. Another variety of verbal "champions" of order is also encountered. They denounce all and sundry, in their critical ardor forgetting party comradeship and ethics, but they do not raise a finger, as they say, to improve the state of affairs or to help a colleague. Often the motives for this carping are a desire to include oneself in restructuring or personal grievances, conceit, and mercenary interests. Of course, this has nothing to do with genuine party, constructive criticism and self-criticism.

/Accelerating the process of restructuring party work is determined by the example of leading political cadres./ Much depends on their personal competence and purposefulness, professionalism and consistency, and the ability to select the most efficient methods and means, to take into account people's views, and to coordinate the action of the party political apparatus and all social forces. Also required is a clear understanding of the indisputable truth that new tasks cannot be accomplished using old methods. Therefore, it is important to begin restructuring with oneself.

In analyzing the activities of political workers we run into problems that are waiting for solutions. Of them, the primary one deals with the ability to utilize one's rights and opportunities, which are provided by the authorities, to display independence and boldness of thinking and acting, not waiting for some kind of supplementary instructions, prompting, and urging from above, and to take on responsibility. "The party will strive to organize work in such a way," the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th Congress states, "so that everyone in his commissioned area operates professionally, energetically, and without fear of taking on responsibility." A precise and clear reference point has been given, which is a mandatory directive for every party worker and Army and Navy Communists, without exception. But at times one unfortunately sees that certain workers of political organs precisely lack professionally mature and energetic action in carrying out restructuring, in thoughtful support for healthy shoots and people's valuable initiative, and in clearing the obstacles of formalism and inertia from the road ahead.

It is necessary for political organs--the CPSU's leading party organs in the Armed Forces--to maintain and develop people's sincere desire to respond in a businesslike way to the party's appeal to work better and to combat everything that interferes with restructuring and everyone who adheres to routine views and leadership methods. The ability to take on responsibility and to boldly resolve pressing issues, finding the most effective political approaches and methods in each specific situation and depending primarily on the creative forces and great educational opportunities of party organizations, is displayed and tested precisely by this.

It would seem that nothing and no one is impeding this. A second problem acts as a kind of obstacle in this: the habit of not leading, but commanding party work, which is still making its presence felt. Giving orders and instructions is of course simpler than engaging in everyday concrete leadership. After all, to lead means to organize affairs in practice.

Expressions about the intent to fight and do battle for restructuring are now in vogue. But military people know that in order to do battle with a guarantee of achieving victory, it is necessary to clarify the mission, to assess the situation, to capably manage forces and weapons, and to make a decision and implement it. By analogy, success can be counted on by the chief of a political organ who, in objectively assessing the situation, determining weak and strong points in the activities of the party political apparatus, and projecting immediate and long-term goals in accordance with this, thoughtfully manages the forces and means to achieve them, clearly sets tasks for workers of the apparatus and of the party aktiv, and organizes their practical fulfillment.

The art of political leadership lies in the ability to influence the course of events not so much through the power of authority, as through the power of prestige, the energy of experience, and conviction. It is undoubtedly difficult to master this style of party leadership. But there is no other way.

Finally, the problem of enhancing the proficiency of political organs and political workers is acute. The party's course of strengthening discipline, organization, and order cannot be firmly and efficiently implemented without personal irreproachable proficiency. Meanwhile, there are quite a few instances in which political workers have a far from excellent attitude toward fulfilling the directives and instructions from higher levels of authority. I will cite just one of them.

A few months ago a specific directive was made to deputy commanders for political affairs of regiments and ships to enhance the standard of party leadership of Komsomol organizations and to take this important matter in hand. A number of districts recently displayed an interest in how this was being fulfilled. In essence, it was not being fulfilled at all. All management was, as before, limited to the presence of political workers and other Communist leaders at Komsomol meetings.

We will not make generalizations from these cases. During fulfillment of the well-known CPSU Central Committee resolutions, definite progress for the better has been made in the management of the Komsomol. The proportion of party members in elected Komsomol organizations is quite high, and greater attention is being paid by political organs and party organizations to the ideological conditioning of young people. But there is quite a lot of formalism, red tape, spoon-feeding, and unnecessary tutelage in this matter. Many political workers and party activists have not paid attention to Komsomol members, who comprise the overwhelming majority of the personnel in subunits. The struggle for the personal exemplary role of Komsomol members in training and discipline and to enhance the role and impact of Komsomol organizations in companies, batteries, and similar subunits, where party organizations and party groups are few or are generally absent, is being conducted poorly and basically for show. But without this, all talk about turning these subunits into centers of party-political work are mere empty phrases.

/Control and monitoring of performance impart purposefulness to restructuring party work./ In party organizations where this is done regularly and with adherence to principles, negative phenomena are being successfully rooted out and Communists' words and deeds do not conflict.

Many political organs and party organizations naturally lay stress on the effectiveness of control. However, it is too early yet to talk about a qualitative breakthrough in the organization of monitoring performance. Precisely due to superficial control, good decisions and plans hang in the air, practical tasks are replaced by idle talk, and there is a lack of commitment and irresponsibility. And as a result, sharp slumps develop in the quality of training and the standard of military discipline.

I will cite just one example that is typical of this. I happened to take part in a party report-and-election meeting in a tank regiment that initiated a socialist competition in the Baltic Military District and received an excellent assessment on the basis of last year's results. In their addresses Communists related how they had to struggle for such a high standard. It would seem that the acquired experience should now be consolidated and augmented. But instead, control by the political organs weakened and there was a completely unjustified hasty transfer of cadres. And in last year's winter period the regiment surrendered the position that was attained with such difficulty.

It is necessary to make substantial modifications in the organization of control everywhere where it is still not properly regulated. The party commissions of political organs, which are designed to act as the vigilant custodian of a strict observance by Communists and party organizations of the requirements of the new edition of the CPSU Program and Statutes, Leninist norms of party life, and party discipline, must take an active part in this. It is important to intensify the struggle against idle talk, irresponsibility, conservatism, formalism; to root out flattery, subservience, bootlicking, and favoritism; to sweep away the dust from all departmental corners and to educate Communists in the spirit of the great traditions of Bolshevism and genuine comradeship. It is necessary to firmly implement the principled directive of the congress that the party must not have organizations which are shut off from control and criticism, and that there are no and must not be leaders who are protected from party accountability. It is expedient to thoroughly expand the publicity of monitoring performance.

/As in any task, party-political work has a criterion for its restructuring./ This is the heightened political awareness of troops, their ideological and moral maturity, and businesslike vigor, which ultimately ensure the quality of combat training, firm prescribed order, and constant combat readiness. The party's impact in the training-educational process must be more active and substantive and be based on mandatory considerations of the nature and feature of modern warfare, the probable methods of combat operations, the complexity and explosiveness of the international situation, and the aggressive preparations and strategic concepts of imperialism. Hence stems an urgent necessity to seek modes and methods for strengthening the party's impact in molding in troops lofty political and moral-combat qualities and a readiness and ability to honorably fulfill their patriotic and internationalist duty in all and the most complicated situations.

We do not have time to get into the swing of things. By learning lessons from the already accumulated experience, putting into service each one of its grains, and promptly correcting the errors made, we must carry out restructuring at a rapid pace and, what is particularly important, in a competent and persistent manner. Restructuring party work purposefully and in a businesslike way, improving and updating its forms and methods, and establishing in military collectives an atmosphere of creativity, adherence to principle, exactingness, and proficiency means ensuring constant fulfillment of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the tasks set for the Armed Forces.

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## AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

### KOLDUNOV ON AIR DEFENSE FORCES, TRAINING

AU190601 Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 14, July 1986 (signed to press 4 Jul 86) pp 27-34

[Article by Chief Marshal of Aviation A. Koldunov, commander in chief of Air Defense Forces, USSR deputy minister of defense, twice Hero of the Soviet Union: "To Raise Vigilance and Combat Training"]

[Text] The decisions of the 27th party Congress and of the June (1986) CPSU Central Committee plenum gave rise to a great patriotic upsurge among the troops of the Air Defense Forces. The commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations of units and subunits are directing the soldiers' efforts toward further raising combat readiness, organization, and discipline, and toward fulfilling complex and responsible tasks. They are teaching personnel to make a realistic assessment of what has been achieved and to wage an active struggle against all that hinders forward movement.

The directives of the congress and of the June CPSU Central Committee plenum are aimed at the development of necessary measures directed toward perfecting cadres' work and increasing their responsibility for the reliable protection of the motherland's airspace. I think that today this is a natural aspiration of every Communist, because our main task consists in bringing the style of our activity into strict accordance with the congress directives. The content of our common aspirations is today reflected by comprehensive discussion of pressing problems, a search for new and more effective approaches to their solution, and a deep understanding of the vital necessity of reorganizing thought and actions.

I shall note a characteristic detail: today practical criticism and self-criticism are being heard more frequently and sharply in party collectives. Communists speak openly about shortcomings and unsolved problems. And there are good signs to be seen here: it means that the congress orientation toward "calling things by their names and judging everything out in the open" has reached people's awareness and has been accepted by them for practical fulfillment. Such an approach is becoming our natural moral norm. Concrete proposals are being made to improve the style of cadres' work and to intensify party influence on all aspects of the troops' training and service. Particular attention is being paid to the search for reserves for increasing combat readiness, to the perfecting of the military training of commanders, staffs, and all

personnel, and to the improvement of the political, military, and moral education of personnel. The main task now is to transform what has been planned into real deeds. And much organizational work is needed for this. The first steps to fulfill the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress have been made in the Air Defense Forces. For us, these decisions are connected above all with a further increase in vigilance and combat readiness in the conditions of the complex and explosive international situation, and also with ensuring that the Motherland and the countries of the socialist community have a reliable air defense.

In their aspiration to gain advantages in the military sphere and to violate, in their own favor, the parity between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, aggressive imperialist circles, and above all American ones, remain deaf to the Soviet Union's constructive and realistic proposals and are intensifying the arms race. They are intensively developing their strategic offensive forces, increasing the number of their medium-range missiles in Europe while aiming them at targets in the Soviet Union, working diligently on the program to site [razmeshcheniye] nuclear missiles in outer space, and developing weapons based on new physical principles. The U.S. Air Force is being further developed and perfected. The construction of the B-1B strategic bomber, the first squadron of which will be brought up to full strength by fall of this year, is continuing. The creation is planned of a qualitatively new bomber and new cruise missiles which would be invisible to radar stations.

The United States' West European NATO partners are not lagging behind it, either. They are developing a joint multimillion program for the creation of a new combat aircraft. Various scenarios for an attack on the USSR and the Warsaw Pact countries are bandied about in the West. Within NATO, the so-called regional "Plan for Conducting Combat Operations with Nuclear Weapons" has been developed, according to which from 18,000 to 25,000 targets on the territory of the USSR and the Warsaw Pact states should be subjected to nuclear bombing. But even that is not all. The notorious "Rogers Plan" which has been adopted by the countries of the North Atlantic bloc envisages the infliction of preemptive strikes against targets deep inside the territory of the socialist states.

The sinister reliance placed on air forces in all these--and other--aggressive designs of imperialism is shown by the local conflicts unleashed by the American military in various regions of the world and by the numerous maneuvers and exercises in which the armed forces of the United States and their allies rehearse aggressive wars. And they do not only rehearse; it is enough to recall spring of this year, when the American air pirates inflicted missile and bomb strikes against cities in Libya, a sovereign Arab state, on the orders of the U.S. President. The barbaric bombing of Libya is one of the links in the chain of provocative and insolent actions undertaken by the United States in response to the Soviet Union's peace-loving initiatives.

As was stressed at the conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member-states in June this year, in this tense international situation it is necessary to do everything in order to keep our defense capability at the proper level and to maintain the military-strategic balance which has historically formed. The Soviet sentinels of airspace are keenly and indefatigably following the actions of those who are increasing their military muscle

and "taking a walk" or concealing themselves by our borders. The Air Defense Forces which are on alert are at the front line of the country's defense. They are always ready to repel sudden aggression and to decisively cut short any provocation on the borders of airspace in good time.

Constant high combat readiness is the law of the air defense soldiers' life. The missile soldiers, aircrew, radar operators, and signallers fulfill their obligations with honor and strictly observe the demands of the law "On the State Border of the USSR." This is promoted by instilling in people a deep understanding of personal responsibility for the defense of the motherland and an aspiration to make a worthy contribution to increasing the combat readiness. The political maturity of our soldiers is most clearly shown today, when personnel are working on the fulfillment of the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. Socialist competition has acquired wide scope among the troops; in the course of this competition, personnel strives to reduce the time taken to put equipment in a state of immediate readiness for use and to increase coordination and precision in the work of alert reliefs and crews. More than 80 percent of servicemen who make up the forces on alert now carry out their military service with "excellent" marks alone. The overwhelming majority of them are Communists. For instance, the subunit led by party bureau member Captain N. Poltoratskiy fulfilled its task well within the set time. A high degree of coordination as well as military skill is displayed by the soldiers of the radar station headed by Captain N. Ivanov, who is rated as a master of combat skills. On the basis of the radar information provided by this crew, Captain I. Ivanov, pilot first class and member of the squadron party bureau, who was carrying out a training task for the first time in a type of fighter which was new to him, intercepted and "destroyed" the aerial target.

In our troops there are a considerable number of such examples of vigilant, high-quality solution of tasks to ensure the inviolability of airspace. The increased political and service activeness of personnel, brought about by the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, has contributed to the fact that over 30 percent of the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers, and officers in the Air Defense Forces today have been rated as "excellent" in combat and political training, while more than 75 percent are high-class specialists.

The military council of the Air Defense Forces and the political administration, commanders, staffs, political organs, and party organizations of formations and units are concentrating their efforts on consolidating and developing positive results. An innovative approach to work and an aspiration to rid oneself of obsolete criteria for evaluating what has been achieved, to interpret one's style of work self-critically from the position of the congress demands, and to achieve a decisive increase in the quality of combat and political training, are characteristic of the commanders, political workers, and party organizations of many units and subunits of the Air Defense Forces. The Communists of the foremost military collectives are marked by persistence and purposefulness in work, by exactingness toward and care about people, by irreconcilability to shortcomings, and by a sharp reaction to cases of formalism, indulgence, and oversimplification in the training process. Combat training has become the basis of the personnel's vital activity here, while a high level of combat readiness has become the main criteria of the effectiveness of military work.

It is precisely in this way that one can see the response of the air defense soldiers to the party's concern about strengthening the combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces, which represent a firm fusion of the military skills, high level of technical equipment, ideological staunchness, organization, discipline, faithfulness and, patriotic and international duty of personnel. Maintenance of combat potential at the level demanded by the 27th CPSU Congress urgently dictates that commanders, political organs, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations must persistently--and without seasonal recessions or interruptions--improve the quality of the troop's combat training and perfect the training of command cadres and staffs, purposefully inculcate high moral-political and combat qualities in soldiers, and strengthen military discipline.

This necessity is understood, and is being spoken about everywhere. However, in some soldiers' collectives matters go no further than discussions about the importance of reorganization and about the need to work in a new way which takes account of today's conditions. In places the concern of commanders and staffs to ensure that combat training becomes the basis of the troops' everyday life is expressed merely in loud appeals which are not combined with live organization of work. Everything looks favorable from outside: Exercises are planned regularly, and the necessary documentary records are kept. But the real training is organized only formally, at a low methodological level, and with indulgence.

Such cases have been revealed, for instance, in the antiaircraft missile unit in which the officer G. Kosteyev serves. The collective did not fulfill its socialist obligations in the winter training period, and the quality of the solution of many combat training tasks was low here. There are a considerable number of reasons for these shortcomings, but the main one is to be seen in the fact that when Communist leaders were organizing combat training they did not take account of changes in the nature of a modern air defense battle, changes which require deep rather than superficial alteration of the methods of training and educating personnel. Paperwork was substituted for painstaking organizational work, confidential contact with people, and study of the moral atmosphere and of the soldiers' moods and needs.

A major portion of the blame for these shortcomings rests with the party organization. It did not make those who were uncritical of the results of their activity answerable in a fundamental way. The ingrained habit of using old yardsticks and of emphasizing the outward appearance of a task, the lack of a sense of what is new, the tendency toward organization in advance, and the fear of calling things by their names all had their effect here. It seems that bitter experience will help the unit's Communists to draw the correct conclusions, accelerate the reorientation of psychology, and intensify their influence on the quality of combat training.

Reorientation... just now we frequently repeat this word, which reflects the very heart of the innovative spirit of the 27th CPSU Congress. And how important it is that this word should become a synonym for energetic, real action.

I shall share a personal observation. More than once in confidential talks with people I have heard them say that they are ready to reorient but do not

know how and where to start. In short, they are awaiting recommendations, recipes, instructions, and advice. And they are doing so in vain. No one, let me stress, no one but Communists themselves can have a better knowledge of the state of affairs in their own house. They have a better view of where things are going wrong, what needs to be changed, and what corrections should be made to work so that the final result is maximally high. Reorienting means self-critically analysing what has been achieved and gained a thorough understanding of what can be used to achieve much greater results, and consolidating this without fail with concrete work, the most important thing. "No reorientation, no turning-point can come about," the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the party congress notes, "unless every Communist, and particularly every leader, grasps the enormous significance of practical actions." Fewer words and more deeds; it is in this that the simple and wise meaning of reorientation consists.

In the Air Defense Forces the reorientation must naturally be aimed primarily at the most effective organization of combat training, at perfecting it, and at achieving high final results. The main thing here consists in ensuring that commanders and staffs adopt a creative approach to the solution of set tasks, create a complex air situation and communications jamming [pomekhovaya obstanovka] in tactical exercises and comprehensive training practice, and find effective methods of combat operation. An immutable condition of this work is the complete elimination of any elements of oversimplification from the training process.

The lessons of the past show that in tactical exercises, individual commanders set themselves the task not so much of testing the training of the collectives with which they were entrusted as of receiving high marks. This approach sometimes did not demand intensity, full effort, or creativity in military work from officers, or indeed personnel. On the contrary, since they knew the duration of field firing in advance, some commanders engaged in intensive training practice only before they went out to the training grounds. But it is impossible to thoroughly work out complicated combat training tasks in an extremely condensed space of time. Under such circumstances things were not up to standard, as they say. Training was effectively reduced to the coaching of views and the development of a pattern for their actions. Individual commanders were able to obtain inflated marks in this way (the testers were also to blame for this) and to use them to cover up shortcomings in their training of subordinates. All this created an atmosphere of placidity in which there was clearly no place for a self-critical attitude to the results of work.

Having revealed such negative tendencies, the military council took measures aimed at a real increase in the standard and effectiveness of combat training. To be specific, the procedure for preparing for tactical exercises involving field firing was changed; commanders now find out the length of these exercises immediately before they go out to the training ground. This has made leading officers take a different look at the organization of combat training. After all, the command to conduct a tactical exercise involving a real missile launch can come at any time. Thanks to the measures which were taken it was possible to achieve an increase in the effectiveness and quality of the training process.

In the training of personnel today it is necessary to take the fullest account of such a factor as the new level of technical equipment of our units and subunits. Thanks to the untiring care of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, the Air Defense Forces have high-quality weapons and equipment. The exploitation and servicing of them call for profound knowledge and skills from specialists. All this gives rise to a need for reorientation of training lessons in such a way as to ensure that in the process of planned training and individual preparation, soldiers acquire a high level of theoretical knowledge and solid practical skills.

A promising solution to this problem has been found by the administration of the air defense radiotechnical troops. Effective methods of training specialists have been developed here, and have successfully undergone on-the-spot testing. The use of these methods has made it possible to intensify the training process and to substantially reduce the length of training of specialists, and to improve the quality of this training. The new norms also make it necessary to be more active in involving the reserves for improving the quality of the training process and to lend a greater practical orientation to training lessons. The significance of this search is difficult to overestimate. After all, the main point in the work of air defense specialists is the ability to react instantaneously to changes in the situation and to take actions which become automatic in the most complex of conditions.

The results of the search for more rational forms of training convince us that reliable support is needed for all that is new. But this is what sometimes puts us on our guard: The press has more than once provided coverage of progressive training methods, a teaching film has been made about them, and directives and instructions are devoted to the need for active application of them. However, the advanced experience of the radiotechnical troops has not yet become the property of commanders of other arms of the service. One would think that the party organizations of antiaircraft missile and fighter aviation units should have weighty words to say on the matter of introducing progressive methods into the practice of training specialists. This would make it possible to accelerate the training process everywhere. And this means also reaching new frontiers of military perfection.

Particular mention should be made of the professional training of officers and of their ability to lead personnel firmly and skillfully. The overwhelming majority of them have such inherent qualities as ideological staunchness, a high standard of political culture, competence, and an ability to organize collective work and inspire people by personal example; that is, precisely those qualities which, as the 27th CPSU Congress noted, must distinguish every leader. Today, among such Communist officers we mention Colonels I. Zhukov, V. Ivlev, and A. Zhitnov, and Lieutenant Colonels A. Kurdyenko, A. Zakharchenko, and V. Tsybin. A large amount of work is being done in units and subunits to perfect the professional training and education of commanders. Many party organizations are making a tangible contribution to this. Nevertheless, the attitude to officer training is not a truly responsible one everywhere. In certain military collectives, commander training lessons are held irregularly and are of a low organizational and methodological standard.

Such errors in perfecting the professional training of officers has a negative influence on the standard of personnel training, on the quality of the servicing and maintenance of the material sector and of the combat use of weapons and equipment, and on organization and order in subordinate collectives. For this reason it is quite clear how important it is today to eliminate patterns in the organization of commander training, to be bolder in introducing progressive forms of intensifying military work, and to make timely corrections to the documents which regulate officers' studies.

In the Air Defense Forces concrete measures are now being taken which are aimed at ensuring that commanders' assemblies, lessons, training practice, and exercises are instructive, maximally correspond to the demands of a contemporary battle, and contribute to the professional skill of command cadres. Programs for commander training have been defined more precisely, taking into account the party's demands on combat readiness as well as the achievements of military theoretical thought. The main emphasis in training is placed on developing in officers the practical skills of organizing combat operations, educating subordinates, and ensuring a high level of military discipline and exemplary discipline. Also new here is the fact that one-third of the program subjects of commanders' study envisages the preparation of officers for higher levels of duty. This creates favorable conditions for the acquisition and development of those skills and qualities which are necessary for advancement through the service.

In this connection let me note that in units and formations of the Air Defense Forces a great deal of attention is paid to officers' service growth. Commanders and political organs do everything to support and develop the healthy aspiration of officers for promotion, that is of course, if this aspiration expresses itself as concrete high results of perfecting subordinates' life and activity. It is very important to take this into account. The 27th CPSU Congress orients commanders and political organs toward evaluating a person by his work and his practical and moral qualities. The congress stated that the one criterion for all promotions and reassignments is a worker's abilities, real achievements and, attitude to people. Strict fulfillment of this directive contributes to increasing officers' service and sociopolitical activeness and stimulates their practical activeness.

The influence of party organs over the implementation of cadre policy has recently grown considerably. This helps not only to correctly determine a candidate for appointment to a higher position, but also to increase party committees' responsibility for educating Communists and ensuring that they are exemplary in service, behavior, and social matters. However, the position of party organizations on this issue is not yet firm and principled everywhere. Even today there are cases of formal study of officers' practical and moral qualities, which, even if only rarely, lead to erroneous appointments. For instance, Lieutenant Colonel A. Khayrutdinov was removed from his post for shortcomings in service, an uncritical attitude to the assessment of his own activity, and an unwillingness to perfect his style of work. The error committed in appointing this officer to a responsible leading position was put right, although with a delay. But at the same time this begs the legitimate question of why it was not perceived earlier that the comrade did not, to put

it mildly, possess the qualities which today's leader requires. This was because they did not study the person as they should have done. They promoted him more through inertia than through necessity. This kind of attitude to cadre policy is impermissible. Formalism in this matter slows down our forward advance and holds back the decisive turn toward intensification of cadres' personal responsibility for perfecting training, for combat readiness, and for the transfer of qualitative indices to the foreground.

The responsible tasks advanced by the 27th CPSU Congress in the sphere of perfecting the Armed Forces' combat potential urgently demands that commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations take effective and decisive action to strengthen military discipline, the basis of combat readiness. Organizational activity must be the main element in this work. In the Air Defense Forces there are a considerable number of soldiers' collectives in which there have been no gross violations of the code of military service for many years. Take, for example, the unit in which the officer T. Nabiyeu serves. The high level of discipline here is a result of the efficient organization of the combat alert duty of subunits, guard services, and intra-unit administration services, of punctilious fulfillment of the daily routine, of concern about the everyday life and leisure of personnel, of correct interrelationships between servicemen, and of other factors which ensure that procedure is according to regulations. This procedure is watched over by commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol activists, who know personnel well, are close to them, and place the main emphasis on painstaking educational work with people.

Such cohesive, well organized soldiers' collectives also achieve the highest results in combat improvement. Today this law does not need extensive proof. However, individual leaders often merely declare that they understand it, while the main thing--practical measures to strengthen discipline takes second place. It is difficult to count on success with such an approach. Today life urgently demands that effective measures be taken to activate the human factor, and thus that the political, military, and moral education of servicemen be improved. It is necessary to renounce attempts to wage a struggle against phenomena alien to communist morality by means of general measures and of sporadic and ineffectual checks, instructions, and directives which are not backed up by concrete organizational work.

Guided by the contemporary demands on military discipline, the military council and political directorate of the Air Defense Forces and the commanders, political organs, party and Komsomol organizations of units and subunits are taking purposeful measures to increase organization and order. Efforts are being concentrated on strengthening one-man command [yedinonachaliye] and on ensuring that officers have a decisive role in the cohesion of soldiers' collectives and in the maintenance of a healthy moral atmosphere, genuine friendship, and military comradeship in these collectives. The command of units is being strengthened with highly trained and exacting officers who are capable of maintaining and establishing firm discipline in soldiers' collectives. The training of young commanders has been improved. Political educational work is being conducted with the emphasis on individual forms. All of the study and life of personnel is being brought into strict accordance with the requirements of the regulations. The main thing is not to regard this matter as an erratic campaign

and not to let up the tension in the struggle against all that runs counter to the requirements of regulations.

All ideological and political educational work in units and subunits is aimed at equipping servicemen with an ability to think and act in a politically mature way and at instilling a high level of vigilance, patriotism and internationalism, and a responsible attitude to the soldier's duty, to military work, and to the code of army service. The organizers and activists of this work should remember that the formation of a communist ideological outlook is concrete in nature, and also that, as the congress stated, it is impossible to be a man of ideas unless one is honest, conscientious, decent, and demanding toward oneself. It is also necessary to proceed from this when selecting the forms and methods of party political work, which today must be developed taking account of real conditions, the concrete situation, and the tasks fulfilled by soldier's collectives.

Our party has moved questions of activating the human factor into the foreground. In connection with this, particular urgency is acquired by the question of the need to inculcate unity of word and deed, and also by that of the ability unhesitatingly to set about fulfilling a decision which has been taken and to strive for high final results. It is necessary to create an atmosphere of acute intolerance toward those who merely speak about understanding tasks and about new approaches to solving them, but who act in the old way. Today it is necessary to orient cadres' work toward qualitatively new indexes in training and toward the most rigorous approaches to the organization and effectiveness of this training. This forms one of the decisive conditions for further increasing combat readiness and strengthening discipline.

A considerable amount of time has passed since the party congress. It is already necessary to measure the decisions which were taken against the results of practical work. The growing service and sociopolitical activeness of personnel must be channelled toward fulfilling the tasks set by the 27th Party Congress and the June CPSU Central Committee plenum, and it is necessary to increase vigilance and combat readiness and to strive for reliable defense of the motherland's airspace.

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## FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

### DEVELOPMENT, CHARACTERISTICS OF U.S. FUEL-AIR EXPLOSIVES

Moscow TEKHNICA - MOLODEZHI in Russian No 8, Aug 86 pp 50-53

[Article by engineer Vasiliy Oselin: "Air-Fuel Explosives"]

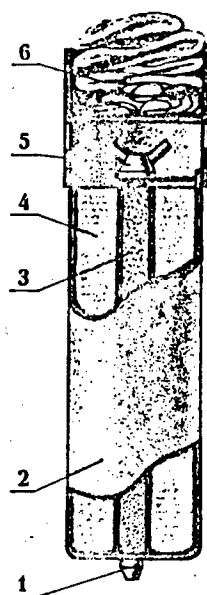
[Text] When tracing the almost constant chain of aggressive wars and armed conflicts that imperialism has started since the Second World War, one invariably turns one's attention to the fact that militaristic circles in NATO member-countries and especially in the US have attempted to use these wars to test new types of weapons.

For example, in the 1950-1953 timeframe, during aggressive operations against the DPRK [Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea] the Americans employed napalm and biological weapons and during their "dirty" war in Vietnam they used anti-personnel and "vacuum" bombs, defoliants and component ammunition for small arms. And relatively recently, during the armed conflict between England and Argentina over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands, the Americans supplied their NATO British allies with intelligence information that had been obtained from military satellites.

The Pentagon has recently been talking about "Star Wars" (see TM [Tekhnika Molodezhi] No 3, 1986), laser weapons and, again, about modernized "fuel-air explosives." The article published below discusses fuel-air explosives.

The term "fuel-air explosive" appeared two decades ago, first in foreign military press and then on the pages of bourgeois newspapers and magazines. Not long after this the US began developing this fundamentally new type of aerial bomb. As opposed to conventional bombs, instead of the traditional solid explosive, these have liquid substances which are dispersed over the target prior to being detonated. What then takes place in seconds is reminiscent of what would occur in an accident at chemical factories, in warehouses where dry substances (for example granulated sugar or flour) are stored, in coal shafts, grain storage facilities, elevators and so forth. In these type structures the smallest spark can cause the clouds of, for example, coal or meal dust, to accidentally ignite and detonate. And fuel-air explosive ammunition acts in a similar manner, except that the cloud is designed to form.

Americans conducted the initial tests of this new weapon in 1960 and nine years later the U.S. Air Force was dropping fuel-air bombs on cities and villages in Vietnam. In the intervening years the Pentagon's arsenal has been enlarged with several types of such ammunition. These new weapons differ not in their principle of operation, but rather in their delivery systems (they include aerial bombs, artillery, small missiles or specialized devices) and also their "liquid fuel" fillings and devices for creating the aerosols.

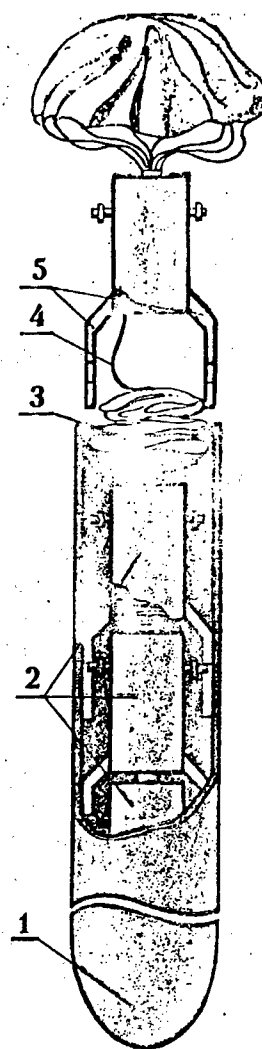


Fuel-air explosive warhead: 1 -- fuse; 2 -- cylindrical casing; 3 -- central explosive charge; 4 -- liquid fuel; 5 -- device for detonating the fuel-air mixture; 6 -- braking parachute (according to U.S. Patent No. 4132169).

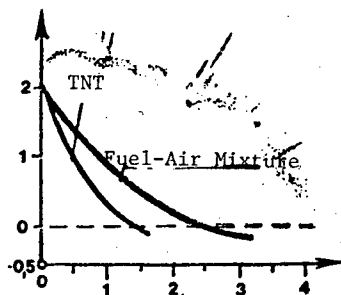
One can evaluate fuel-air explosive ammunition devices by one of the first of its type, one that was adopted into the U.S. Army inventory in its day. After being fired, a braking parachute is automatically deployed as the warhead nears the target and a metallic probe is extended. As soon as the latter touches the ground, the central charge detonates, destroying the shell casing and dispersing the fuel into the air in such a way that it forms a cloud of finely-scattered fuel-air mixture. The initiation device then goes into action, throwing several detonators equipped with conventional explosives into the mixture. They detonate after a short delay. The fuel-air mixture ignites, causing a shock wave that has a significant overpressure along its front and which is replenished for a short time by the mixture that is burning within the cloud.

For example, the explosion of all three modules, each of which contains 32.6 kilograms of ethylene oxide, in an American aerial bomb forms a cloud of fuel-air mixture with a diameter of 15-17 meters and a height of up to three meters. The detonators set it off after 125 microseconds and the shock wave that is formed has an overpressure of  $21 \times 10^5$  Pascals. This can increase by a factor of two to three by being reflected off of the ground.

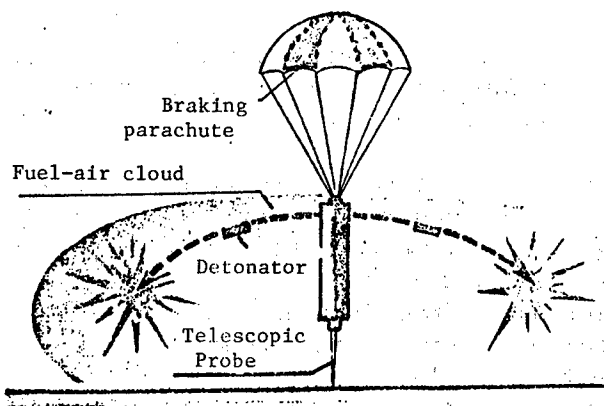
The shock wave quickly loses its force and the excess pressure on the front is reduced to  $10^5$  Pascals at three to four times the cloud's radius from the



A fuel-air explosive bomb cassette: 1 -- casing; 2 -- modules; 3 -- braking parachute; 4 -- line for developing the parachute; 5 -- sensitive fuse elements (according to U.S. Patent No. 3940443).



A comparison of the excess pressure at the front of a shock wave caused by exploding TNT and an ethylene-air mixture.

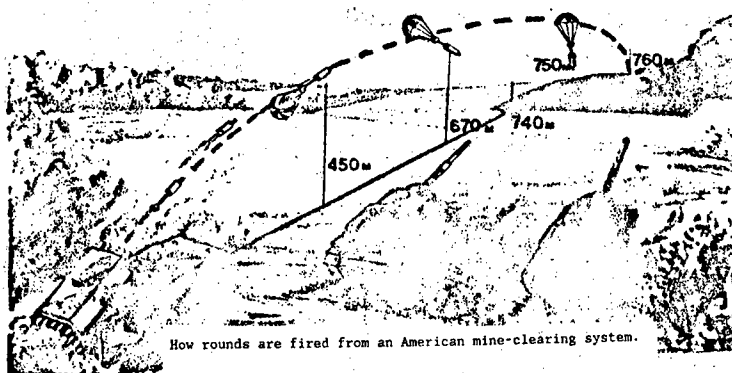


A diagram of how a fuel-air explosive ammunition operates (according to U.S. Patent No. 4273048).

epicenter. According to American military experts, this is enough to put combat airplanes located in airfields out of action. Also a shock wave of  $0.7$  to  $0.9 \times 10^5$  Pascals is enough to cause serious damage and even destroy combat ships.

And foreign military experts are also not forgetting to stress yet another characteristic of fuel-air explosives. As is known, traditional explosives are both a fuel and an oxidizing agent. In particular, only 40 percent of TNT which is widely used consists of combustible elements whose explosion creates a shock wave. Fuel-air mixture explosives use only hydrocarbon-type fuels in a compressed state under normal or increased pressure. The possible fuels for these weapons include ethylene oxide or propylene, methane, propyl nitrate and MARR (a mixture of methane, acetylene, propadiene and propane). Atmospheric oxygen fills the role of oxidizer. Therefore the destructive properties of these types of substance are many times greater than those of conventional explosive having the same weight. For example the explosive power of an ethylene oxide fuel-air mixture is three to five times greater than that caused by the detonation of an equal weight of TNT. And the effect of the shock wave on living beings, military equipment and various types of structures increases correspondingly.

We should add that prior to detonation fuel-air mixtures are able to envelop relief folds and penetrate through any, to include insignificant, openings in fortified structures, living



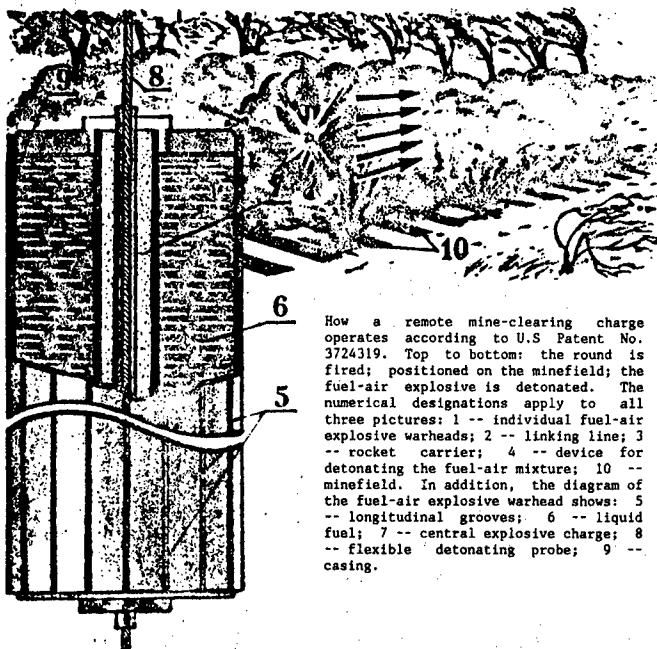
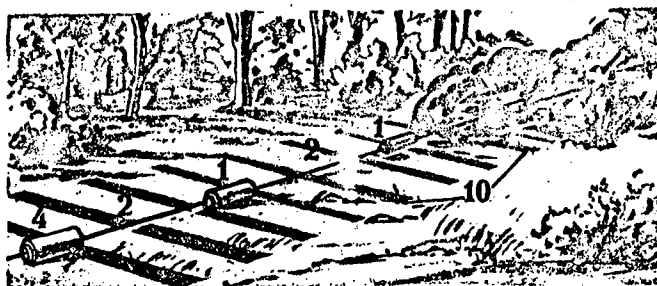
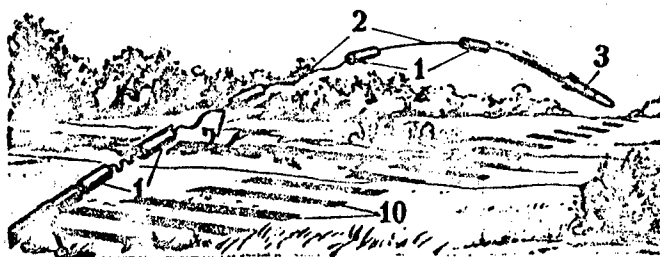
How rounds are fired from an American mine-clearing system.

quarters and service structures, dugouts and long-term firing positions. And during the Second World War all of these were considered reliable cover against fragmentation and shock waves.

As is known, the first fuel-air ammunition manufactured in enterprises in the U.S. military-industrial complex were relatively small aerial bombs. After testing them and at the request of military experts, the Americans attempted to increase their caliber but, as reported, they "ran into serious technical problems." This seemed to lead them to develop and then produce cassette, or in other words, component bombs. Their casings include several fuel-air charges which are ejected from the casing over the target and which disperse as they descend in parachutes to cover a set area, thus increasing the zone of destruction.

The Pentagon decided not to limit itself to the development of fuel-air mixture ammunition for aviation and artillery and hastened to equip other branches of service as well. New mine clearing systems were specifically developed for engineer subunits. One of these systems was based on the use of the 30-tube salvo-fire launcher for the Zuni free-flight missile.

This round consists of an oversized warhead filled with 38 kilograms of ethylene oxide, a central explosive charge, two detonators, an electronic and a mechanical fuse and a solid-propellant sustainer motor. The electronic fuse is equipped with a safety which keeps it from operating when the shell is flying through the branches of trees and shrubs. The mechanical fuse is equipped with a telescopic prod and a system for deploying a braking parachute. All of the 30 rounds are launched in 12 seconds and the rounds are not fired in salvo, but are



How a remote mine-clearing charge operates according to U.S. Patent No. 3724319. Top to bottom: the round is fired; positioned on the minefield; the fuel-air explosive is detonated. The numerical designations apply to all three pictures: 1 -- individual fuel-air explosive warheads; 2 -- linking line; 3 -- rocket carrier; 4 -- device for detonating the fuel-air mixture; 10 -- minefield. In addition, the diagram of the fuel-air explosive warhead shows: 5 -- longitudinal grooves; 6 -- liquid fuel; 7 -- central explosive charge; 8 -- flexible detonating probe; 9 -- casing.

launched independently. For example, if the rounds are launched at maximum range (1000 meters), the last round is detained on the launch rail for 2.8 seconds, whereas a round fired at 300 meters is held for 11 seconds. This is how range dispersal is accomplished for fuel-air explosive ammunition.

After the probe touches the ground, the explosive charge instantaneously destroys the shell casing and disperses propylene oxide into the aid. Then the 14-meter-in-diameter and four-meter-high fuel-air cloud is ignited by the detonators and the excess pressure that is developed sets off the fuses in the minefield. After this, if one believes the statements by Pentagon representatives, there is a corridor 100 meters long and approximately 10-12 meters wide in the minefield.

A little later the U.S. developed a remote mine-clearing charge which consisted of several fuel-air explosive rounds connected with a line. Its forward end is fastened to a carrier (a missile) and its rear end is connected to a mechanism that detonates the fuel-air explosive mixture. Each warhead is a cylinder filled with a "liquid fuel" and there is a central explosive charge along its axis. There is also a connecting line with detonation cord intertwined through it. All of the warheads are packed into a common cassette from which they are ejected in turn into the minefield where they are detonated all at once.

Thus there are aerial bombs, rounds and all types of mine-clearing systems. Moreover, several years ago foreign press carried reports covering how American experts were conducting research during the course of which fuel-air explosive ammunition was detonated at depths of 450-700 meters in the ocean. The goal of these experiments was to create extremely powerful warheads for depth charges and anti-submarine torpedoes.

And as early as 1973 the U.S. began studying the phenomena that accompany fuel-air explosions in the upper layers of the atmosphere. It was later announced that judging by experiments in vacuum chambers, the shock wave from this type explosion detonated at 10,000 meters or higher must be much greater than that of a comparable weight of explosives traditionally used in air defense rounds and rockets.

It is easy to notice that American militarists are persistently pushing the development of fuel-air explosive ammunition destined for military application on land, in the sky and in the ocean. In this regard, we will remind the reader that not only the use, but also the development of such weapons, just as for other means of mass destruction (nuclear, chemical, biological and genetic) are contrary to international law. The United Nations, of which the US is a member, specifically considers fuel-air explosive ammunition as an "inhumane means for waging war and a means that cause extraordinary suffering to people," and as far back as 1976 adopted a resolution that demanded that they be unconditionally banned.

In February of that same year Washington publicly announced that deliveries of such weapons to its allies would be halted. However later events showed that this was a lie, at least in regard to the U.S.'s faithful puppet, Israel. For example, during their 6 August 1982 aggression against Lebanon (we note that

it was the anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima) Israeli pilots dropped an American "vacuum" bomb which totally destroyed an eight-story residence in West Beirut as a result of which more than 300 peaceful inhabitants were killed or made invalids.

As we see, imperialist powers and especially the U.S., heated by the military-industrial complex, are eager to launch any aggressive weapon, no matter how monstrous it may be.

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CSO: 1801/255

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

U.S., JAPANESE NAVAL MANEUVERS HELD IN SEA OF JAPAN

U.S. Naval Maneuvers Begin

OW101412 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1045 GMT 10 Sep 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] U.S. naval maneuvers, the most extensive in recent times, began today in the Sea of Japan. Twenty warships are participating in them. The U.S. squadron consists of two strike groups of the U.S. Seventh Pacific Fleet. One of them includes three ships armed with intermediate-range nuclear Tomahawk cruise missiles.

According to the Japanese press, after maneuvers in the Sea of Japan the U.S. squadron will pass through the Sea of Okhotsk.

'Provocative' Maneuvers Near USSR

LD151303 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0820 GMT 15 Sep 86

[Text] Tokyo, 15 Sep (TASS)--The United States has deployed a large naval squadron in the Sea of Japan to hold provocative maneuvers in direct proximity to Soviet shores. According to an announcement published today by the Japanese Agency for Safety at Sea, the aircraft carrier Ranger and several frigates passed through the Tsugaru Straits on Sunday evening and have joined the missile battleship New Jersey, which was already in that area.

The modernized battleship, the atomic missile cruiser Long Beach and the destroyer Merrill, which are equipped with Tomahawk nuclear cruise missiles, have been combined in a new naval formation, a destroyer combat group. Pentagon strategists have set aside a leading role in nuclear missile "gunboat diplomacy" for these units.

As the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI points out, the Pentagon views these maneuvers as a demonstration of force intended to show its intention of keeping up tension in the Far East.

# Combined Exercise Begins 21st

LD160751 Moscow TASS in English 0655 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] Tokyo, 16 September (TASS)--Japanese-U.S. naval exercises, the largest scale ones in the entire history of joint operations by the navies of the USA and Japan, are to begin on 21 September and will continue for ten days in the Sea of Japan off the coast of Honshu and Hokkaido islands, YOMIURI SHIMBUN newspaper reports.

The exercises will involve more than 100 Japanese ships, up to 130 combat aircraft, including P-3C anti-submarine aircraft, and more than 20,000 servicemen.

Taking part in the exercises from the American side will be a carrier strike force led by the aircraft carrier Ranger.

The plan of the exercises envisages the "liberation" of vast territories in the country's north from a mythical enemy occupying Japan.

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## FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

### U.S.-JAPANESE MANEUVERS SHOW NUCLEAR 'THREAT'

LD162158 Moscow TASS in English 1959 GMT 16 Sep 86

[Text] Moscow, 16 Sep (TASS)--By TASS Political News Analyst Askold Biryukov

Despite the fact that Washington and Tokyo speak only vaguely about the current U.S. naval maneuvers in the Sea of Japan, clearly the biggest in recent times, their peace-endangering role for the Asian-Pacific region is obvious. An unprecedented number of ships of which the strike power of the 7th U.S. fleet consists were brought into the area of the exercises. They are armed with scores of Tomahawk cruise missiles which are first-strike weapons. And what commands instantaneous attention, this armada is cruising in proximity to the coasts of the Soviet Union and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a most challenging manner. According to the WASHINGTON TIMES, it is there in order to demonstrate the ability of the U.S. Navy to block off the Tsushima and Tsugaru Straits. The Japanese press in its turn wrote that during the current maneuvers the U.S. Navy will imitate a nuclear attack on the far eastern region of the Soviet Union. In a word, the United States staged a very dangerous military provocation, which is all the more dangerous, because of its pronounced nuclear accent. It is clearly linked with another major military provocation near the coast of the Soviet Union--in the North and Baltic seas. As the Japanese newspaper NIHON KEIZAI wrote, the simultaneous maneuvers in the Far East and the Atlantic demonstrate the desire of the West to start combat operations on two fronts in case of emergency. The paper added that the movements of the 7th U.S. fleet should demonstrate the U.S. readiness to open a "second front" in the Far East.

The Japanese newspaper YOMIURI regarded the U.S. naval maneuvers in the Far East as a first test of Washington's "new strategy" announced in Anchorage by U.S. Secretary of the Navy John Lehman not so long ago. He said that U.S. interests were more and more frequently concentrated there and that the Russians were showing an increasing number of vulnerable spots in the region. U.S. Rear-Admiral Hostetler made an even more candid remark in Congress. Answering the question why the U.S. was fitting out its Navy with cruise missiles he answered that the purpose was to increase impressively the number of targets on Soviet territory which the U.S. could hit. In its "new strategy" for the Far East Washington assigns a prominent role to its allies in the region, Japan in the first place. It becomes known today that soon

after the current U.S. maneuvers in that region joint maneuvers of the U.S. and Japan, the biggest in the entire history of cooperation of both countries in the military sphere, will start in the same region. More than 100 ships, about 130 combat planes, over 20,000 Japanese servicemen and a U.S. aircraft carrier group led by the ranger will be involved in the maneuvers. The aim of the planned exercises is as provocative as that of the previous ones--the destruction of "enemy" navy and the air force invading the Japanese waters, the "liberation" of Hojjaido and of Tohoku, a vast region in the neighboring island of Honshu, from the same mythical "enemu" and a strike by the planes based aboard the aircraft carrier ranger at the Amagori test range not far from Misawa Air Force Base. Large-scale provocative maneuver staged by the U.S. in proximity to the shores of the USSR and other countries are called upon to serve as part of material and psychological preparations for a third world war. Such shows heighten the threat of a nuclear conflict. They also threaten the countries which Washington chose as its accomplices with being involved in such a conflict.

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## FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

TASS: NATO EXERCISE ESCALATES 'TENSION' IN NORDIC REGION

LD291531 Moscow TASS in English 1459 GMT 29 Aug 86

[Text] Moscow, 29 Aug (TASS)--TASS news analyst Valeriy Vavilov writes:

A giant armada of warships approached the shores of Denmark and Norway, with battleships and destroyers assuming battle formation in the English Channel and submarines taking firing positions, as the NATO naval maneuvers codenamed "Northern Wedding" began in that area today.

According to an announcement of the NATO headquarters, hundreds of NATO warships, 35,000 officers and men, hundreds of planes and other war technology are involved in the maneuvers.

Meanwhile, the Northern Wedding is just one-twentieth of a series of autumn maneuvers of the armed forces of the North Atlantic Alliance, conducted throughout Western Europe from the northern shores of Norway to Turkey's Black Sea coast under the overall codename "Autumn Forge-86". About 200,000 troops will participate in them till the middle of November.

The French QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS says that "the NATO military leadership has a special interest in the practical appreciation of the strategic role of Norway and the importance of French-West German military cooperation for the alliance as a whole." The newspaper says that France, which is not a member of NATO's military wing, will nevertheless take part in the maneuvers and that, clearly, beaching operations in Norway and Denmark will not take place without the French Navy and Air Force."

But what is the Pentagon looking for by the shores of Nordic countries? According to the master plan, the maneuvers should "realistically confirm NATO's ability to contain an attack and protect the northern flank of the alliance." Beaching parties are going to be put on shore, and aircraft will carry out bombing raids against this anti-Soviet background. American bombers F-111, which recently participated in a piratic raid on Libya, have arrived from the U.S. to bases in Britain, and plans have been laid even for the launching of a medium-range cruise missile from an American submarine.

Pursuing its tactic of scaring the Nordic countries with the "Soviet threat," Washington is seeking to escalate tension in that region and to distract scandinavian public attention from the truly vital problems, such as the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Nordic Europe. Washington, clearly, was not enthusiastic about the decision of the leaders of Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Iceland to set up a special commission to examine the possibility of establishing such a zone, and by whipping up war psychosis the U.S. Administration and its NATO allies are trying to raise an obstacle on the road to a nuclear-free Nordic Europe. There obviously is another aspect to this scheme, namely, the intention to make France more active militarily and to drag it into NATO's military activity.

The provocative character of the maneuvers is especially obvious against the background of the Soviet peace initiatives aimed at curbing the arms race, reducing the armed forces and conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals, eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe and strengthening peace and security.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

SWEDISH PAPER ON NATO VIOLATIONS OF SWEDISH AIRSPACE

LD111347 Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 11 Sep 86

[Text] Stockholm, 11 Sep (TASS)--Sweden has enhanced the readiness of its armed forces deployed along the country's western coast. The measure was adopted, GOETEBORGS-POSTEN reported, following the violation of Sweden's air space by NATO combat planes engaged in the major maneuvers of the North Atlantic Alliance currently under way in southern Norway.

This measure implies that the Swedish Navy and Air Force are enhancing observation and control over the border, primarily in Bohuslan Province.

According to Jan Tyninger, a spokesman for the Swedish Defence Headquarters, the exact number of violations had not as yet been determined. The point at issue was the intrusion of NATO, most likely American, planes into Sweden's air space on five occasions. Swedish fighter planes took wing several times over the past few days to intercept NATO planes.

NATO exercises should be conducted outside the 12-mile border of the country's territorial waters, GOETEBORGS-POSTEN emphasized. The U.S., however, recognized the boundary to pass four nautical miles from the shoreline. From time to time, the paper said, the U.S. carried out a so-called harmless passage in the region between the 4- and 12-mile boundaries. Each time, Sweden denounced such actions.

The newspaper said one could not rule out the possibility that after the country's Defense Headquarters carried out a more detailed analysis of the violations, Sweden would lodge a protest with the U.S. via diplomatic channels.

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## FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

### KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON MORATORIUM, NATO EXERCISE PROGRAM

PM041010 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Aug 86 Second Edition p 3

[Article by Captain 2d Ran V. Kuzar: "Policy of Realism Against Nuclear Madness"]

[Text] "A step deserving wholehearted approval," "An act of supreme state wisdom," "Evidence of the Soviet Union's truly indefatigable efforts for the good of peace and for the sake of ending the lethal arms race"... The Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions until 1 January 1987 has met with words of deep gratitude and support from the world public.

The statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Soviet television has filled the hearts of millions of people with a sense of hope. Hope that it will succeed in breaking the vicious circle of the arms race and force back militarism. The peoples can see the Soviet Union's unshakeable desire to free the world of the nuclear threat in the Soviet leadership's firmness and boldness in taking decisions and in its sincerity and frankness in defining a situation that is becoming increasingly intolerable. And this gives them strength and inclines them to determined struggle against reaction and militarism.

There is no need to particularly stress that it was not easy for the Soviet Union to take this decision. During the year in which the Soviet moratorium has been in effect the United States has carried out 18 nuclear explosions. And this is a great deal, considering the dangerous adventurism of Washington's neoglobalist policy and its aggressive intentions. It is a secret to no one that the Pentagon needs nuclear explosions in order to improve and modernize lethal weapons and create new types of such weapons, primarily space-based strike weapons.

Soviet people know who they are dealing with and never forget their own security. As M.S. Gorbachev has stressed, the country's security is a matter that is sacred to us; this must be clear to all. The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Government do everything necessary to protect Soviet people's creative labor against any encroachments. The Soviet Union cannot be intimidated by anything. It is capable of responding to any challenge from the United States, including its "star wars" program. If necessary, our country will quickly find an answer, and it will not be what ruling circles in Washington are expecting.

Thus, having weighed up all the "pros" and "cons" from every angle, the Soviet Union has extended its unilateral moratorium. This step has not been dictated by any weakness on our country's part, as the United States endeavors to present the matter. It is an example of new political thinking and action and of awareness of our great responsibility for the fate of mankind.

Relations between countries today, especially between nuclear powers, cannot be based on a "balance of fear." Even the most cautious calculations, the newspaper VOLKSSTIMME writes, show that the nuclear weapons stockpiled on our planet are sufficient to destroy the world population 15 times over. Just 1 percent of the present U.S. and USSR nuclear arsenals has a capacity 60 times greater than that of all the bombs and shells detonated during World War II. In this connection the words of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary sounded as a stern warning to militarist hotheads when he said that if someone nevertheless decides to carry out a first nuclear strike that person will himself be doomed to an agonizing death--not even from a counterstrike but from the effects of his own warheads being detonated.

In the nuclear and space age the only path to real peace is the total elimination of nuclear weapons. But for this one needs the political will and one must be prepared to take the historic test of maturity. The Soviet Union has demonstrated this will by its decision to re-extend the moratorium on nuclear explosions. What is more, our country is already following this path, because the moratorium is not merely a proposal but primarily an action.

The peoples of the world expect the same action from Washington and its closest allies. However, the initial reaction to the constructive Soviet initiative to come from both the State Department and White House spokesmen does not as yet inspire optimism. Judge for yourselves. Even 45 minutes before the beginning of the Soviet leader's speech, State Department spokesman Redman allowed himself to anticipate the USSR's proposal and spoke against the United States joining the moratorium. And White House spokesman Speakes, commenting on the Soviet Union's decision, cynically said that the United States will continue to carry out nuclear explosions.

The militarization of political thinking in the United States and other NATO countries continues in opposition to peoples' interests. For the sake of making a profit from arms production, satisfying imperial ambitions, and robbing developing countries, the forces of reaction and militarism are forcing the pace at which unprecedented military programs are being implemented and engaging in other military preparations, including rehearsals for unleashing and waging aggressive wars.

Indicative in this respect are the recently begun "Autumn Forge-86." More than 200,000 servicemen and a vast quantity of combat equipment and weapons are being dispatched to the regions of these militarist games. And they will cover the entire territory of Western Europe and last more than 2 months. And this at a time when peoples are seriously concerned by the growth in the nuclear threat. And when the first stage of the Conference on Confidence Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe, one of whose tasks is to limit military activity on land, at sea, and in the air, is coming to a close in Stockholm.

A concentrated demonstration of military strength in close proximity to socialist countries' borders is clearly provocative. This is attested to both by the Unified strategic design of the "Autumn Forge-86" maneuvers, which include 20 separate exercises involving ground troops and naval and air forces, and by the cynical propaganda background against which they are being conducted.

A special feature of the current series of NATO exercises is the fact that half of them will be conducted in Northern Europe. And this is no accident. Atlanticists have long assimilated this region, which borders directly on the USSR, considering it to be one of the main regions in their aggressive strategy. Thus, the British General Farrar-Hockley, commander in chief of NATO Allies Forces in the North European theater of military operations, has made the claim that "if a war in Europe is not won on the northern flank, it will be lost completely."

The NATO strategists are also pursuing political aims by declaring Northern Europe the main zone for conducting "Autumn Forge-86." As is well known, Northern Europe has gone further than other regions on the continent with regard to deflecting the nuclear threat from itself. The idea of a nuclear-free north is taking hold in the minds of more and more people living in this region. And at a recent meeting of the prime ministers of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland the decision was taken to form a special commission to study the possibility of declaring Northern Europe a nuclear-free zone. It is precisely this process that alarms the Atlanticists, who have set themselves the aim of impeding this process at all costs, undermining faith in nonnuclear principles, and creating an atmosphere of military psychosis and anti-Soviet hysteria in the European north. This is also confirmed by the intention of the NATO military to send to the regions where the exercises are to be conducted, the newspaper LAND OG FOLK writes, units and subunits armed with nuclear means.

Without a doubt the "Northern Wedding-86" exercises will be the biggest in the northern series. Approximately 35,000 military servicemen, 150 surface ships and submarines, and several hundred fighter planes from nine NATO countries will begin their exercises on 29 August in the extensive waters of the northeast Atlantic, in the zone of the English Channel, and in the North Sea and the Baltic. The U.S. marines will also be brought into action, its units carrying out an assault landing together with the Norwegians and Danes on Norwegian and Danish shores. The exercises will last until 19 September.

The "Brave Lion" exercises must also be singled out, in the course of which, to please the Pentagon, the largest transfer of Canadian troops to Europe since World War II will take place. Approximately 5,000 Canadian military servicemen will be taken by air and sea between 31 August and 3 September to Norway, where, in conjunction with Norwegian and American troops, they will begin working out elements of combat operations under polar conditions in a region directly bordering on the Soviet Union.

Since 19 August NAOT airforce exercises have been in progress over Danish territory, opening the "Autumn Forge-86" maneuvers. A large number of aircraft from the Danish Airforce are taking part, and also almost 100 fighter planes from other countries in the bloc. According to reports in the newspaper LAND OG FALK, in the course of 3 weeks this airborne armada will "bomb" targets on land and at sea. What is more, the majority of the flights are being carried out at low altitudes, which, as the newspapers note, is creating intolerable conditions for the local population.

As always, one of the main regions for NATO maneuvers is still FRG territory, which Atlanticists regard as the most important bridgehead for waging a war in Europe. In close proximity to the borders of socialist countries the West German Bundeswehr and formations and units from the armies of the NATO countries will work out, in accordance with the so-called "Rogers plan," the delivery of a first combined strike at the very heart of the strategic formation of Warsaw Pact troops. The biggest exercises within the "Autumn Forge-86" framework are those involving tank units: "Springendes Ross" (8-12 October) in the Bramsche and Bremen region; "Radiant Saber" (20 October-3 November) in the Ingolstadt region; "Buntes Fennlein" (3-7 November) in Upper Pfalz. What is more, there will be other exercises involving ground troops and also the airforce.

It cannot but be noted the French-West German "Frankische Schild" exercises are being held at the same time as the "Autumn Forge-86" exercises. A total of 57,000 West German and French military servicemen will be taking part. The North Atlantic bloc leadership describes them as "separate bilateral exercises" because France, they say, is not part of the NATO military organization. Nevertheless, these exercises, as the Western press stresses, are closely coordinated with the "Autumn Forge" maneuvers both in design and in their timing. This fact, like many others, attests that France's military policy is becoming increasingly integrated with the militarist activity of the entire bloc. This trend cannot help but arouse serious concern among the progressive public.

And finally, NATO's southern flank. Four NATO exercises are to be carried out in the Mediterranean and Black Sea region within the "Autumn Forge" framework. Beyond any doubt, the main operative force in these exercises will be the American 6th fleet. It has already begun its own exercises involving two aircraft carriers. Judging by reports from foreign information services, they are to rehearse carrying out a surprise air attack along the lines of the barbaric attack on Libya in April. Miscalculations and shortcomings permitted at that time are to be taken into account in the operations by American forces. The Pentagon does not conceal the fact that it intends to involve its allies in this training. And this will be done in the course of the "Autumn Forge" maneuvers.

A sensation has been raised in the U.S. press surrounding the nauseating subject of "Libyan terrorism" and people are demanding that this "obstinate" Arab country be taught a lesson--this at the same time as the beginning of exercises by the 6th fleet. In this connection American fleet operations and NATO military activity in the Mediterranean should be regarded as further manifestation of the U.S. neoglobalist policy.

The saber rattling, negative reaction to the provocative actions attest that neither Washington nor NATO headquarters are yet ready for a new approach in their assessment of the realities of the contemporary world. The militarists and nuclear madmen are still drawn to methods of force to resolve world problems, without considering the possible consequences of these methods. However, they clearly overestimate their strength. The potential for peace is growing. There is now every possibility to force back militarism and not to place the fate of the world in the hands of those who irresponsibly orient themselves toward the arms race and total political license.

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CSO: 1801/2

## FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

### KRASNAYA ZVEZDA VIEWS X-RAY LASER TECHNOLOGY

PM121507 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 86 First Edition p 3

[Lieutenant Colonel V. Baberdin "Military-technical Review": "Stamped 'Special Importance'"]

[Text] To begin with, a brief excursion into history. On 14 November 1980, the American magazine AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY reported, a routine underground nuclear explosion was carried out at the testing range in Nevada, seemingly a commonplace event for American military circles. The yield of the explosions was small, but the very fact was of particular significance in the Pentagon's plans. The validity of the idea of creating a fundamentally new type of weapon was being tested in practice--the nuclear- pumped X-ray laser. A weapon which foreign military experts count among the "most promising U.S. means of strategic defense" and call "third-generation nuclear weapons."

The role of the main ideologists and developers of the project has been assumed by specialists at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory of radiation, a scientific center known for its direct involvement in designing the first hydrogen bombs and creating such means of mass destruction as the warheads for MX missiles, B-83 bombs, and special warheads which "penetrate the earth" and are designed to destroy command centers and underground missile silos...

In a word, the link with the Pentagon has deep roots, and military orders stamped "special importance" have become commonplace. However, there are no models in the past for what is being done at the laboratory now. "Never before," the WASHINGTON POST wrote, "have the old hands at the Livermore Laboratory experienced such a high tempo and busy pace. The most talented, energetic young physicists in America has been brought in to work on a new type of weapon." It has also become known that President R. Reagan personally is displaying keen interest in the results of the research.

So what is the nature of the projects being worked on, behind which, according to observers, there lies the creation [sozdaniye] of a "superweapon"? In an interview for Western journalists (Dzh.) Miller, leader of the arms research program, said: "We are only just beginning to grasp the consequences of this type of weapon, this type of technology... The weapons we have been involved with in the past acted in a highly unselective way. The new technology ensures a high degree of selectiveness."

A fairly complete picture of what lies behind these words is provided by materials published in SCIENCE magazine. The third generation of nuclear warheads is distinguished from the last two generations (atomic and hydrogen) by the fact that the energy of the nuclear explosions is used in a directed way, in the form of X-ray beams, electromagnetic microwaves, or gamma rays, which are focused on a distant target. In accordance with this, work is under way in several spheres simultaneously--designs are being created for atom bombs using an electromagnetic pulse which are capable of putting communications systems out of action, "optical laser bombs," "high-speed cluster bombs" [skorostnyye kassetnyye bomby], and "gamma-ray bombs." The priority, however, according to the foreign press, is assigned to nuclear-pumped X-ray lasers.

Why X-ray lasers specifically? The point is, foreign military experts explain, that theoretically the energy of X-rays can be 100, 1,000 or even 10,000 times greater than the energy of lasers in the optical range, and that they are capable of penetrating considerable thicknesses of various materials. By comparison with other "third-generation" nuclear bombs, this radiation is easier to focus into beams and to direct.

X-rays in space are generally a familiar phenomenon. Such rays are emitted by distant stars and arise in the "furnaces" of atomic transformations of super-high plasma [sverkhvysokaya plazma]. But how can so much energy be "conserved" in a mobile military device? Scientists from Livermore, who are in the pay of the military department, have suggested using a conventional nuclear bomb of medium yield for this purpose.

In outline, the operation of the X-ray laser is described thus in foreign publications. A nuclear device of several kilotons is installed on board an orbital combat space station. About 10 lasers are sited around it, their active medium being concentrated in thin rods. Each of the rods is targeted on a space device by a special targeting system. When the nuclear device is exploded, all the lasers are pumped and more than 10 targets are destroyed--enemy ICBM's, orbital stations, ABM systems... According to the foreign press, the laser operates in less than a millionth of a second, after which the rods containing the active substance are destroyed by the shock wave from the nuclear explosions.

In discussing the destructive factors, the magazine AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY emphasizes the thermal and radiation effect.

Foreign specialists believe that X-ray lasers will be used mainly in space. Opinions are also voiced to the effect that with high intensity radiation they could destroy targets in the upper strata of the atmosphere at an altitude of 60-80 km, by means of forming "transparent" channels in the path of the dissemination of the beam. However, it is noted that in order to utilize this effect the power of the existing X-ray lasers would have to be increased by several orders of magnitude. The resolution of this problem is also classed as being of "special importance."

As yet, the "debates" are taking place behind closed doors, as the saying goes. But what filters through to the press gives some idea of the "stumbling blocks" encountered by those who entertain the idea of a "super-weapon." Foreign observers note, for instance, that even on the explosions of a low-yield source of pumping, there is a high probability that the shock wave could destroy your own space devices near the station, while satellites further away could feel the effects of the clouds of radioactive plasma which would form. There are still many gray areas, the Western press stresses, both in terms of the implementation of concrete technical solutions and in terms of possible applications of the new type of weapon. The designers encountered serious problems even at the stage of designing the X-ray laser in principle. It has been reported in the press that the series of tests carried out yielded disturbing results. But money has been appropriated, and in large sums, and so the reports attempt to embellish the picture, juggle the facts, and claim distortions in the instrument readings. There are evidently many interested influential people who would very much like to take their plans to their conclusion by any possible means.

The designs for the new "superweapon" are still only designs. Their realization is called into question by many people, since even scientists state that it is technically very difficult to embody in metal the "physics of these processes, and on this basis to create combat devices suitable for operation," which will take years of work and substantial expenditure.

The cost of only one underground test of an X-ray laser is estimated at 50 million dollars, according to NEWSDAY. "Inquiring" voices are raised more and more often in Congress, but nonetheless the research in this sphere continues.

The overall leadership of the research is in the hands of the notorious Edward Teller. That same Teller who is known as the father of the American hydrogen bomb. He is largely credited with the expansion of the finance for the operations, because of the influence he has been able to bring to bear on Reagan. It is no accident that the Western press calls Teller's new offspring the "heart" of the President's "star wars" shield.

The real state of affairs lies behind these words. Despite the fact that Reagan often describes his defense initiative as "nonnuclear," research into third-generation nuclear weapons is swallowing up a significant proportion of the appropriations allocated to SDI. And of course, these developments are associated one way or another with many of the 1,000 underground nuclear explosions which, the American press reports, have been sanctioned by the White House and will take place during this decade and the next.

To explain these impressive figures, foreign observers note that whereas the creation of one type of nuclear munition in the first two generations--atomic and hydrogen--took an average of around 6 experimental nuclear explosions, in order to perfect just one type of the far more complex "third-generation" weapons 100-200 nuclear tests are needed.

That is the real reason for the reluctance to join the moratorium. And the assertions by certain White House representatives that the creation of the new "superweapon" will increase the guarantee of "universal peace" look utterly absurd. But this is, so to speak, an old song to a new tune. You only have to turn the wheel of history back 30 years--the same thing was said in the United States when the Pentagon was energetically building up the arsenal of the "superweapon" of that period--hydrogen bombs.

The time has come for resolute, responsible actions and the utmost mobilization of reason and common sense. In this connection exceptional significance is attached to the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Soviet television. This marks the start of a new stage in the struggle to eliminate nuclear weapons, curb the arms race, and improve the international situation. That is how it is regarded by all honest people on the planet.

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CSO: 1801/2

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

FINNISH CHIEF OF STAFF ENDS VISIT

PM170844 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Sep 86 Second Edition p 3

["Our correspondent" report: "Departure for Home"]

[Text] On 10 September Vice Admiral J. Klenberg, chief of the Main Staff of Finland's Defense Forces, on an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, set out on a tour of the country.

The guest from Finland was accompanied by Lieutenant General B.A. Omelichev, deputy chief of a USSR Armed Forces General Staff Directorate.

Vice Adm J. Klenberg arrived in Leningrad the same day. He was met by Army General B.V. Snetkov, commander of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. The guest from Finland laid flowers at the monument to Leningrad's defenders in Victory Square.

On 11 September Vice Adm J. Klenberg paid a call on Army General B.V. Snetkov, commander of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. The guest from Finland visited the Leningrad S.M. Kirov Twice Red Banner Higher Combined Arms Command School and familiarized himself with the organization of the training process.

Vice Adm J. Klenberg left Leningrad for home 11 September.

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## FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

### BRIEFS

MILITARY EXERCISES NEAR CSSR--Bonn, 3 Sep (TASS)--The Bundeswehr maneuvers "Shwerer Dampfhammer" to be held in immediate proximity to the borders with Czechoslovakia in north-eastern Bavaria on September 14-19 will involve a total of more than 18,000 servicemen. The exercises will feature over 800 combat vehicles. According to figures released by the Bundeswehr command, troops of the West German and French armies will take part in the maneuvers, whose goal is to practice their interaction and test the combat readiness of the units of the two countries' armed forces. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 3 Sep 86 LD] /9738

CSO: 1812/1

AFGHANISTAN

REMARKS BY FORMER AFGHAN GUERRILLA CITED

LD121734 Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 12 Sep 86

[Text] Moscow, 12 September (TASS)--BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reports.

Since the desperate strivings of the counterrevolutionaries are vain, and every day groups of these bandits are crushed by the armed forces of the country, I joined the side of the state of the DRA along with 25 assorted weapons, put at our disposal by the counterrevolutionary bands for sowing murder and destruction in the DRA. This was said by Jamil, the ex-ringleader of a group of 25 of the band of Jami'at in the Balkh District of Balkh Province to a BAKHTAR reporter.

He added that the counterrevolutionaries made use of the hostile propaganda, as if Islam was in danger. But during their stay with the counterrevolutionaries, it was noticed that none of their actions were humane and Islamic. The band ordered the arsoning of the village school, killing of innocent people.

Jamil said that the members of the band did not show mercy even to the dead bodies of each other. For instance, he recalled that the bandits were cutting the finger of one of their killed accomplices aimed at getting his golden ring.

Witnessing this and tens of other crimes Jamil said, he came to know that he was deceived when [he] joined a group of bandits. Therefore he decided to join the revolutionary state.

Now, they have organized a revolution defense group aimed at ensuring the security of their village. They have restored the village school as well, Jamil said.

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CSO: 1812/165

AFGHANISTAN

IRAN-TRAINED BANDS 'CRUSHED' IN AFGHANISTAN

LD181326 Moscow TASS in English 0040 GMT 18 Sep 86

["Gangs of Counterrevolutionaries Crushed in DRA,"--TASS headline]

[Text] Kabul, 17 September (TASS)--Troops of the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have carried out a successive operation to rout counterrevolutionary gangs in Herat Province, BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY has reported.

In Kakari and Sharshari districts they found and rendered harmless hundreds of ammunition and food depots. According to officers of the Afghan Army, who took part in the operation, the counterrevolutionaries equipped their weapons emplacements with account of their being inaccessible to artillery fire. [sentence as received]

Successful operations to crush bandit armed formations were conducted these days in Baghlan and Nangarhar Province. A large amount of weapons produced in other countries, ammunition and subversive literature were confiscated during the combat operations.

BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reported that a considerable number of bandits underwent training in the territory of neighboring Iran where the local authorities used "Guards of the Islamic revolution" to force Afghan refugees into camps for training counterrevolutionaries near the cities of Meshheda and Jama. No subterfuges, however, helped the bandits to hold out under the onslaught of the units of the Afghan Army. All of them were in for an inglorious end.

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CSO: 1812/163

## AFGHANISTAN

TASS: CHEMICAL ARMS SEIZED IN AFGHANISTAN

LD031914 Moscow TASS in English 1812 GMT 3 Sep 86

[Text] Kabul, 3 September (TASS)--Democratic Afghanistan's armed forces have captured large quantities of weapons of U.S., British, French and West German makes in the course of successful combat operations against counterrevolutionary gangs in Wardaq, Kabul and Loghar provinces, BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reported today.

It said the seized weapons include chemical mines with launchers, chemical grenades and cartridges, and gas masks.

It is for the first time since imperialist forces led by the United States started an undeclared war on the Afghan people that such a large arsenal of chemical weapons has been captured.

The Afghan people's enemies and their overseas patrons have been caught out employing chemical weapons against democratic Afghanistan's armed forces and civilian populations more than once.

In 1984 bandits surrounded in Haghani District, Nangarhar, used mines stuffed with chemicals against the Afghan troops chasing them.

Strong-action tablets for poisoning drinking water and food have been discovered in the caches of the gang under Alla Kaiwan after it was routed in the host area. The 1982 tragedy at a Kabul girl's lycee where some 100 students suffered as a result of an act of terrorism, water poisoning, is still remembered well in this country.

Large amounts of chemical shells, mines and grenades have been supplied to Peshawar from NATO countries of late.

Western secret services, which are taking care of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, have drawn up plans for using chemical weapons on a large scale not only against the armed forces but also against the civilian population.

The policy of using chemical warfare agents, which has been adopted by the organizers of the undeclared war against democratic Afghanistan, has

also another definite aim, which is to pass the results of their own use of chemical weapons off as "incontrovertible proof" against the Afghan army and the Soviet limited military contingent in this country, BAKHTAR said.

It is with this aim that the bandit gangs operating in Afghan territory have been given instructions to start applying chemical weapons and simultaneously to gather data about the results of their use and send it to Pakistan.

This is intended, BAKHTAR explained, to foment anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet propaganda.

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CSO: 1812/163

## AFGHANISTAN

### SOVIETS REPORT DEFEAT OF GUERRILLA BANDS

#### Border Crossing Thwarted

PM020904 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Gangs Routed"]

[Text] Kabul, 25 Aug--BAKHTAR reports that Afghan border guards have thwarted an attempt by a counterrevolutionary gang to force its way into DRA territory from Pakistan in the vicinity of Spin Buldak.

In (Shuldara) District (Balkh Province) subunits of the Afghan Army and security forces destroyed three fortified dushman positions which were being used as bridgeheads for bandit attacks on peaceful villages. A large number of Western-made weapons were captured.

#### Qandahar Province Band Defeated

PM291420 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Aug 86 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Afghanistan: Gang Routed"]

[Text] Kabul, 26 Aug--The BAKHTAR agency reports that Afghan Army subunits have routed a big counterrevolutionary gang which had long been terrorizing the population of the Shakh-valikud District in Qandahar Province.

Dozens of bandits were killed and a large quantity of Western-made weapons was captured, including surface-to-air missile launchers, machine guns, submachine guns, and rifles, as well as several portable radio transceivers and antigovernment leaflets printed abroad. In the course of the fighting servicemen of the Afghan Armed Forces liquidated four dushman depots.

#### Operations in Various Areas

PM011053 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Sep 86 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Gangs Routed"]

[Text] Kabul, 31 Aug--The DRA Security forces have carried out a successful operation to eliminate counterrevolutionary gangs in Bagrami District, Kabul Province.

As BAKHTAR reports, in the course of combat operations a considerable number of bandits were eliminated. British-made "surface-to-surface" missiles, a missile launcher, and more than 100 kg of explosives were seized. According to another report from the agency, subunits of the republic's armed forces carried out an operation in Herat City to eliminate bandits who were using underground passages and fortifications for their terrorist and subversive activity. Dushman hiding places were discovered and rendered harmless in the districts of (Kukhiran), (Maldan), Golran, (Baland Shakhi), and (Sarai-Nau).

#### Kabul Province Group Routed

LD111135 Moscow TASS in English 1114 GMT 11 Sep 86

[Text] Kabul, 11 September (TASS)--A counterrevolutionary unit has been routed in Paghman District, Kabul Province, according to BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY.

Rocket launchers, mortars, guns and mines were captured.

Units of the Afghan armed forces detected and seized several munitions and equipment depots.

#### Zabol Province Operations

LD141400 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 14 Sep 86

[Text] Kabul, 14 September (TASS)--Security forces in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have conducted a number of successful operations to rout counterrevolutionary gangs in Zabol Province.

A considerable number of bandits was killed or captured in the areas of Tangi Baluchan and Jaldak. Units of Government forces also seized weapons of foreign make, including recoilless guns, grenade launchers and machine guns, as well as several arms and ammunition depots.

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CSO: 1812/164

## AFGHANISTAN

### USSR REPORTAGE ON DRA CONFLICT

#### Moscow TV Depicts Fighting

LD080916 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1315 GMT on 7 August carries a 42-minute feature presented by Aleksandr Barkhatov on Soviet forces in Afghanistan entitled "There, Where There Are No Blank Shots."

The program begins with a report on a helicopter trip made by Barkhatov. The helicopter brings Barkhatov and his recording equipment to a combat area where the Afghan army and Soviet servicemen are involved in routing dushmans. The most important work underway there is that of sappers clearing mines laid by the dushmans. A sapper describes how the dushmans can lay mines in the river. He points out the location of a recent base of the dushmans with its training center and mines of West German and Italian manufacture.

Now follows a recording with superimposed Russian translation of conversations held with locals at a kishlak where a festival is taking place. Against a background of music a man who has lived in the village all of his life says that at present they have a good harvest of various crops but work is hindered by dushmans who mine the fields and fire on houses. The man says that last year 12 people from the village stepped on dushman mines. Two died as a result while the rest lost their legs. The dushmans come at night, forcing the villagers to supply food and money, he says. If they don't get what they want, they shoot. Barkhatov asks how it happens that young village people join the dushmans. The local says they are removed forcibly. Nobody from the young people will go voluntarily. There are many people from the kishlak in the people's Army, both as officers and soldiers. Asked of the attitude to those who defend them--the Afghan and Soviet soldiers--the man says they respect the new authority and know it is helping the revolution, helping to get rid of dushman bands, but as yet there are a great many bands. Barkhatov muses on what might await people in the night, who are speaking to him with such frankness. Barkhatov talks to an Afghan Army sergeant who is guarding the meeting, the Jerga, who says that it is always the dushmans who fire first. While the bands kill the people, the DRA Army defends itself and the borders.

Barkhatov now goes on to talk about the rugged terrain in the DRA. A recording of a conversation with Soviet soldiers follows in which they talk about the mountains and getting used to them. In their work they try to eliminate dushman convoys with weapons that come from Pakistan.

The next section contains a recording of a conversation with a former dushman. Barkhatov gives the Russian translation, noting that "bands paid 15,000 afghanis for the killing of an Afghan party activist; several tens of thousands for blowing up a vehicle, a bridge, a tank." When they were stocking up on weapons in Pakistan, all the money was received by the ringleader. He was called Doctor Gulhan. This ex-dushman, named Wazir, describes dushman activities in the Nangarhar Province, activities that are still continuing. Wazir says he spent 4 months in the mountains with the band and the ringleader. They "set fire to kishlaks, schools, and even mosques." Wazir describes reading matter that was available in the band. It was from Iran and Pakistan. The books criticized Afghans cooperating with the Soviet Union. They would listen to the radio but only to stations in Pakistan and Iran. Wazir admits that he himself cannot read or write. The ringleader Gulhan came from a poor peasant family. He was trained in Pakistan in a military camp. Wazir recollects how the American adviser in the band, Sterke, worked out plans to attack Soviet and Afghan soldiers' posts. He got quite a lot of money for this. The desire for a peaceful life made Wazir leave the band. He was pardoned and given arms to defend the revolution. Now everything depends on him.

The next section consists of a conversation between Soviet soldiers and officers whose voices have been heard in this program. They are all Komsomol members and young Communists. They talk at length about the Komsomol, its history and role today. Barkhatov ends the program by giving an address to listeners who would like to send parcels to the internationalist soldiers in Afghanistan.

#### DRA Forces Shown Routing Guerrillas

LD051855 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 5 Sep 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast, M. Leshschinskiy report]

[Text] From the eastern top the Western borders of Afghanistan, the Armed forces of the republic continue to inflict large strikes against the group of counterrevolutionaries. [Video switches to a shot of M. Leshschinskiy speaking from on board a helicopter against heavy background engine noise]

[Begin recording] [Leshschinskiy] The military helicopter of the Afghan airforce is now proceeding along the Iranian-Afghan border. [Video shows aerial shots of dry hilly terrain with what appears to be a river in the background] As you can see it follows this river which is called Hari Rud.

For many long years right here people have passed along this secret caravan trail and hauled weapons and drugs from the direction of Iran, but the Armed forces of Afghanistan have now arrived in the far west of the country in order to rout the enemy support bases right here along the border. Through reconnaissance an area with a front more than 10 km long and 12 km deep was discovered. Now this area, this border area is basically an area of military action. Below us there are a large number of hot spots; battles flare up; they are being conducted where the dushmans have established stores of weapons, food, and drugs. It is to one of these hot spots that we are now heading. [Video shows throughout preceding commentary aerial shots of dry hilly terrain lines of men walking in single file along hillridge paths or assembled in small groups atop rounded summits, surrounded by terrain abundant in gullies and ravines. Two other helicopters are seen in the far distance. Video then shows Leshschinskiy pointing at and speaking about a cache of weapons which has been captured. Behind him stands a group of about 10 or so soldiers standing in line--one of whom, wearing turban-style headress is said to have been captured]

Well, one has to literally haul out mountains of these weapons from caves, from caches artificially created here in deep caves high up in the mountains. This is done by Afghan soldiers. As you can see they have surrounded a prisoner who was taken here, right up on top. He had been in a pillbox from which he was firing from a large-caliber machine gun. The assault force is moving on. You can hear how military helicopters are continuing to circle in the air. [Video shows helicopters passing overhead]. Well, perhaps a short interview, on the march as it were, with the commander of this subunit.

[Unidentified commander speaking in vernacular, with superimposed Russian translation] The dushmans called this area an invincible fortress, but as you can see, they have run off, leaving everything in panic. Can we really allow murderers like this one who has been taken prisoner to be the masters in our country? [Video shows shot of prisoner]. [end recording]

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